Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 246 | FRIDAY OCTOBER 15, 2010 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

Visit us online @ www.saipantribune.com

OPINION METER

This week's poll:

With less than a month to go before the delegate election, have you decided on who to vote for?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Korean Pizza

Only a year in the business yet Amigo Pizza continues to attract local customers to visit the only pizza parlor on Saipan that offers pizza with a hint of Korean flavor.

Local...Page 20

All Accounted For

The longest underground nightmare in history ended safely–and faster than anyone expected.

World...Page 24

Presidential Thrill

Actor George Clooney says he still gets a thrill when he meets with President Barack Obama.

Life & Style...Page 20

Supreme Court grants Juan Pan's emergency motion. PAGE 3
Ethics prosecutor suggests suspension, probation for Govendo. PAGE6

Fitial may lower budget estimate to $122M

» Work hour cuts may be greater than 16 hours, layoffs now weighed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

From $132 million, the estimated revenue available for the CNMI government's operation may soon be lowered to some $122 million and this may mean work hour cuts greater than 16 hours per pay period and termination of non-essential employees.

See FITIAL on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja of the Democratic Party, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, former governor Juan N. Babauta of the Republican Party, and former House floor leader Joseph N. Camacho of the ruling Covenant Party pose for the media during a break at the delegate debate sponsored by the Saipan Chamber of Commerce Wednesday night at the Fiesta Resort & Spa. The delegate election is on Nov. 2.

Delegate candidates spar over economy, federal-CNMI issues

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Four candidates for a nonvoting CNMI delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives sparred over the economy and federal-CNMI issues, among other things, during a debate Wednesday night that drew hundreds of voters who pretty much already had a candidate in mind prior to the event.

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business group in the CNMI with some 150 members, sponsored the debate to hear directly from candidates what they have to say on relevant issues and to raise funds for the group's community projects.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, as the first and so far the only CNMI delegate to U.S. Congress since the islands became a commonwealth, was at the receiving end of criticism from his opponents.

Former governor Juan N. Babauta of the Republican Party, former House floor leader Joseph N. Camacho of the Covenant Party, and former lieutenant governor Jesse Borja of the Democratic Party took turns downplaying Sablan's accomplishments.

Based on their responses and rebuttals, the three candidates claimed they could have done a better job than Sablan.

But Sablan said his accomplishments in his two years in office speak for themselves, including pumping millions of dollars more for the CNMI that he specifically asked for.

Babauta said now that the CNMI has representation in U.S. Congress after 30 years, the Commonwealth is

See DELEGATE on Page 4

DUE TO REDUCED PSS BUDGET

Freeze hiring, energy conservation to take effect across-the-board

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Public School System will enforce an across-the-board hiring freeze on non-certified positions as well as implement energy conservation plans to sustain its operations until the end of the current fiscal year.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan said Wednesday that PSS is forced to adopt these belt-tightening measures because of the reduced budget allocated to PSS in Fiscal Year 2011.

Under the budget law signed this

See FREEZE on Page 4

Local

Six schools fail to meet adequate yearly progress

» Sablan vows to 'turn-around' student academic performance by end of school year

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Six of the 20 public schools in the Commonwealth have failed to achieve the adequate yearly progress target set by the Public School System last school year but Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan is confident that all six schools will succeed in meeting their goals at the end of this school year.

Sablan classified the Kagman Elementary, Chacha Junior High School, Kagman High, Rota High, San Antonio Elementary, and Tanapag Elementary as the "turn-around schools" that need immediate assistance and support of PSS and the Board of Education.

"We have identified six as 'turn-around' schools and they are under my wing. The commissioner's office is working closely with them right now to ensure that they meet their AYP according to their targets before the end of the school year," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* Wednesday.

The commissioner defined "turn-around" schools as those that have not met the goals set by PSS and need to improve their performance in terms of student academic achievements.

She disclosed that top priorities are in the areas of reading and math.

"One of our initiatives is to really improve our student performance across the board and so we have to look very carefully how our schools are performing. I will make sure that I work with them to take them up in the air…" she added.

Among the important initiatives enforced by the commissioner to assist the "turn-around" schools included sessions about balanced leadership, power walkthrough, and success insights.

Sablan said BOE is also providing school improvement efforts and classroom instructions that are research-based and best practices.

Last Wednesday, *Saipan Tribune* learned that two of the six "turn-around" schools—Kagman Elementary and Kagman High School—have shared experiences and ongoing improvement works in their campuses even before U.S. Department of Education Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy and State Technical Assistance Dr. Carl E. Harris lauded the schools' continuing efforts to better student learning.

Harris earlier lauded the PSS and BOE's efforts in improving student achievements. The visiting official described PSS as heading on the right direction.

Sablan said she was humbled by the official's message.

"I really am very humbled by his message as to the collaborative efforts that he has seen in our school leaders, Board of Education, and our congressional delegate to really impact students here in the CNMI," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Kagman Elementary School principal Ignacia Demapan, for her part, described the situation as "painful and challenging" being labeled a "turn-around" school.

"It's painful and challenging experience … but we needed to do something to address those challenges. So I started it to myself being their administrator. Our schoolchildren need an effective leader…and with the tools that were provided to us to address our school improvement efforts, we're making progress," she said.

Demapan also formed a school leadership team in Kagman Elementary School where each grade level has a "voice" for each program. She said "shared responsibility and teamwork" is key to achieving the AYP targets.

SMART PHONE
SMART PRICE
NOKIA
E71
E66
$199* $149*
Video Calling · Max Channel
Skype · Ovi App Store · 3G
• 24 Months Only 12 Months!
• Free 2 Months Ringback Tones
• Free 2 Months Data with activation
*Other conditions apply.
Offer valid during October 1-23, 2010.
Continental Airlines OnePass
Receive 2500 Continental OnePass® Bonus Miles on New Account Activations**
**Conditions apply please see website for details
docomo
DOCOMO PACIFIC
483-CARE | www.docomopacific.com | Typhoon-Proven
Gualo Rai, Middle Road • Mita Travel, Garapan

Congressman Kilili
Works for You!
$250 Social Security COLA check
I can use that extra money for medicine.
10,000 books from the Library of Congress
I better get started!
Transparency, accountability
Town Halls, weekly e-kilili newsletter, offices on Rota, Tinian, Saipan I like it!
$2.9m Laolao Bay protection
That run-off was killing me!
$19.62 million for water; sewer construction
A job for me. Closer to 24-hour water for everyone.
$8m "edujobs" grant to PSS
I can teach without worrying about a payless payday.
Re-elect Kilili on Nov. 2.
No. 3 on the ballot.
www.kililiforcongress.com
Paid for by Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

Supreme Court grants Juan Pan's emergency motion

» Order saves Guerrero from reporting to jail today

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Supreme Court yesterday issued an order that granted businessman Juan Pan T. Guerrero's emergency motion to stay the Superior Court's judgment and order for him to spend five days in jail over his conviction of driving while under the influence of alcohol and two other traffic offenses.

Justice Pro Tempore F. Philip Carbullido e-filed the order to the CNMI Supreme Court yesterday at 4:35pm.

The granting of the emergency motion means that while his appeal in the high court is pending, Guerrero is saved from serving the jail term supposedly to begin today, Friday, at 7am at the Department of Corrections in Susupe.

Carbullido said the court finds that the requirements for issuing a stay are met.

"The government concedes that the appeal is not taken for purposes of delay and that Mr. Guerrero does not pose a flight risk. The court has not reason to believe that Mr. Guerrero poses a threat to the community," the justice pro tempore said.

During a bench trial, Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona had found the 60-year-old Guerrero guilty of DUI, speeding by failing to maintain a clear distance, and refusal to submit to breath test. She acquitted him of reckless driving.

Manglona imposed a five-day jail term on the businessman.

Attorney Steven Pixley, who served as new counsel for Guerrero in the appeal, moved the trial court to stay the sentence pending the appeal.

Manglona denied the motion, prompting Guerrero to file the emergency motion on Friday.

Pixley asserted that there is no prejudice to the government if Guerrero's sentence is stayed until the Supreme Court can rule on this appeal.

Guerrero

In granting the motion, Carbullido said under Rule 38 of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, a stay must be granted if an appeal "is taken and the defendants is released pending disposition of appeal."

"Both requirements—a filed appeal and release from jail—exist in the instant case," he said.

Guerrero was one of four gubernatorial candidates in the November 2009 general election. He used to serve as NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees chairman, a congressman, and a senator.

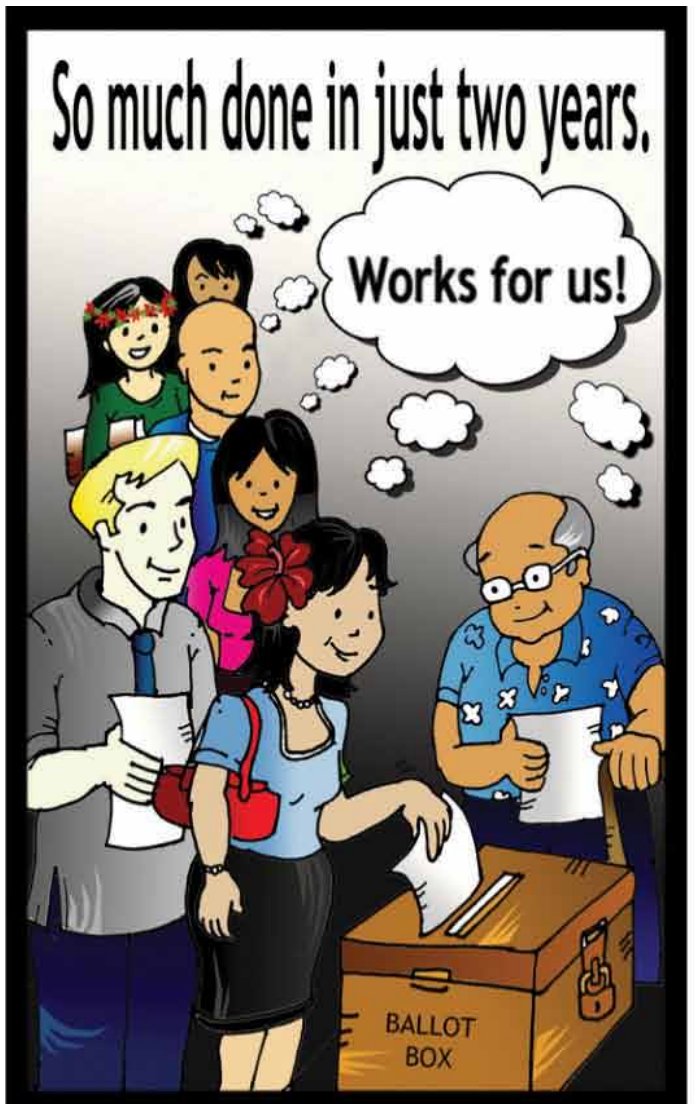
Diabetic?
Visit the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care
Why?
- Advanced Technologies
  - State of the art diagnostic equipment
  - Advanced lasers and surgeries
- Newest Vision Saving Treatments
- Top Doctors
  - Mark Robertson, OD
    Magna Cum Laude
  - David Khorram, MD
    America's Top Ophthalmologists
    Researcher in Diabetic Eye Care

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"
Most Insurance Accepted
Walk-ins welcome
235-9090
Beach Road, Garapan
www.MarianasEye.com

Royal Thai Massage
Special Promotion
$15.00 per hour of full body massage
Monday to Friday • 10am - 5pm
Open daily 10:00am - 11:00pm • Tel: 234-2521
1st Floor Saipan Gold Beach Hotel (Beach Road, Garapan)
Gift Certificate available for any occasion.
Exprerience Thai apply traditional medical massage.

元通金行
YTT GOLDキン
We buy gold and we do pawn service.
Good Reputation Since 1989
Tel. No.: 233-2368
Business Hours: 1pm - 9pm
Located behind Duty Free and Star Sands Plaza

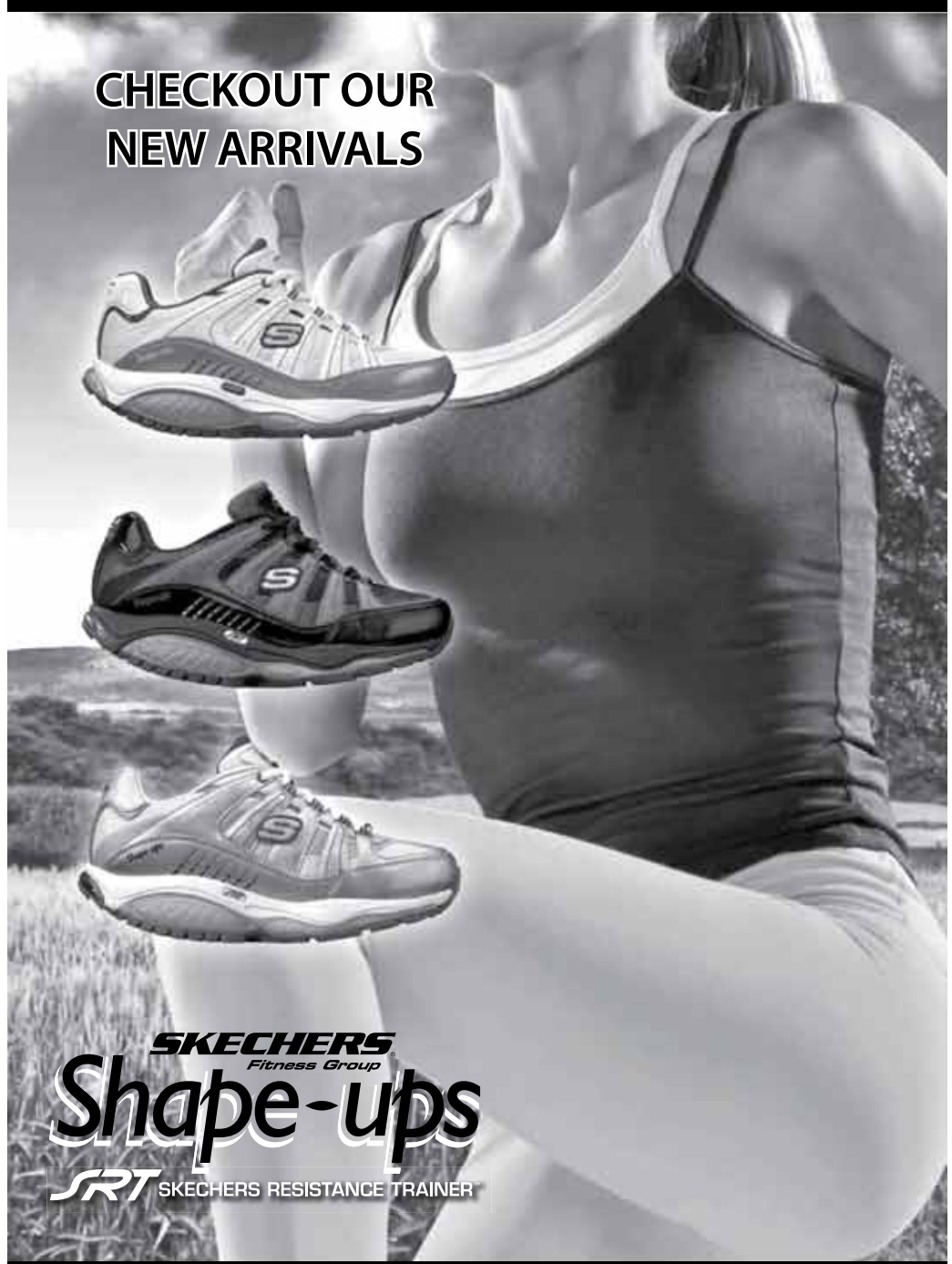
USSP Club
Presents:
YEAR END-Ecstatic, Jolly,
HAPPY HOUR SPECIAL
Beers 99cents!
Chilled shots $3.00
with 1-hour FREE game of Pool
5pm daily



GREGORIO Kilili CAMACHO SABLAN
Because Kilili works for you:
- $100M Recovery Act, including $40M for PSS
- $8M for teacher jobs • $1.45M food stamps
- $158M Medicaid funds • $7.5M for NMC
- Military academy slots doubled
- $1.35M earmarks • $250 for 2,500 man'amko
- $4.4M more Pell grants • 10,000 library books
- Chinese & Russians can still visit w/out a visa
- $14.7M in water and sewer money

Re-elect Kilili on Nov. 2.
No. 3 on the ballot.
www.kililiforcongress.com
Paid for by Committee to Elect Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan

SPECIAL PROMOTION
BUY $120.00 WORTH OF REGULAR PRICED SKECHERS SHOES
YOU GET $20.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR YOUR NEXT PURCHASE



SKECHERS SAIPAN
NEW STORE, NEW LOCATION
BEACH ROAD GARAPAN

Santos: Speaker cannot restrict me from participating in committee meetings

Rep. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota) said yesterday she respects Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio's (Cov-Saipan) decision to exercise his authority to oust her as chair of the Natural Resources Committee, but she said the speaker "does not have the authority to refrain or restrict me from participating or attending any committee meetings."

"All meetings are open to the general public pursuant to the Open Government Act," Santos told *Saipan Tribune*.

Tenorio replaced Santos with Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan), who had voted along with the majority during the budget process.

But Santos said she was not elected to please the speaker, nor is she accountable to him.

"I was duly elected by the people of Rota, thus, I shall represent, protect, and defend what I believe is best for the people as I am accountable to them in this democracy," she said.

Tenorio officially removed Santos from her committee chairmanship through an Oct. 12 letter.

The speaker's letter bears the signatures of the seven standing committee chairs, approving the speaker's action to remove Santos from heading the Natural Resources Committee.

Tenorio also wanted Santos along with Rep. Trenton Conner (R-Tinian) to sit along with minority members during House sessions starting today.

Santos said during the initial deliberation of the budget bill, she openly and clearly explained her position to officers and members of the leadership, "some of whom have recognized and accepted my position."

"Given this, I will not renege in favor of a bill that I see as not in the best interest of the people, even though I am consequently stripped of my committee title in the House of Representatives. Ultimately, I voted on the proposed budget bill so as not to avoid further pain and suffering, agony and despair for the Commonwealth and the people I represent," she said.

Santos reiterated that "a title is only a title, while the people should be the central focus of a democracy."

"I for one prefer this over my own interests. I also trust in God, whose Word affirms: '…All things work together for good to them who love God and are called according to His purpose'," she added.

The freshman lawmaker from Rota also thanked her committee members for their support and contribution for "the betterment of the CNMI's natural resources for the benefit of the people and for making my tenure as chairperson on the Committee on Natural Resources one of the highlights of my political career." She also thanked Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) and senators for their moral support.

The speaker, in his letter, said Santos' service as committee chair "is very much appreciated." ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

Tropical storm moves away from Marianas

A tropical storm intensified slowly yesterday, but moved away from the Marianas region.

The National Weather Service in Guam expected Tropical Storm Megi to gain strength and may become a typhoon Thursday night.

The MWS and the Emergnecy Management Office have not issued tropical cyclone watches or warnings are in the Marianas region.

According to NWS, packing maximum sustained winds of 65 miles per hour, Megi's tropical storm force winds extend outward up to 70 miles from the center.

Megi was moving toward the west-northwest at 8 miles pe hour.

As of 1pm yesterday, the center of Megi was 375 miles west-southwest of Guam, 160 miles north of Ulithi, 185 miles north-northwest of Fais, 205 miles north-northeast of Yap, and 475 miles northeast of Koror. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

FREEZE

From Page 1

week, the Legislature appropriated PSS $31.140 million to operate its 20 public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. PSS was also approved a total of 1,113 full-time employees this fiscal year.

Sablan said the approved budget was based on Maintenance-of-Effort requirement of the state fiscal stabilization fund, which provides PSS $34 million in total assistance.

Due to the limited budget, the commissioner anticipates a "challenging year" for all schools.

Besides the hiring freeze and energy conservation, she said PSS may also outsource some of its services to generate savings.

Sablan said the leadership team will come up with specific recommendations and contingency plans for the board's action.

PSS has two types of personnel: certified and non-certified employees.

At present, it has over 900 locally funded personnel, of which over 500 are classroom teachers and teacher aides comprising certified positions. The rest are support staff and employees who are classified non-certified personnel.

Non-certified personnel include support staff such as bus drivers, maintenance and utility personnel, as well as administrative employees. Classroom teachers and teacher aides are classified as certified positions.

Due to the same funding shortage in FY 2010, the freeze hiring order was initially issued in February this year.

It was earlier disclosed that government revenue is estimated to reach just $132 million this fiscal year, a sharp drop from FY 2010's $137 million. The decline has prompted the central government to implement an across-the-board cut in the budget of government agencies, which did not spare PSS.

DELEGATE

From Page 1

still "at the bottom of the totem pole."

"I'm tired of being at the bottom of the totem pole. If you elect me as your delegate, I bet you I will bring us up higher than the bottom of the totem pole… I am optimistic about the future," said Babauta, who, for over a decade, served as the CNMI's resident representative to Washington, D.C. before he was elected governor.

Borja, who is also a former Supreme Court associate justice, promised to give the CNMI a "professional, competent and effective representation in the halls of Congress."

He said as soon as he's elected into office, he will sit down with local leaders to come up with an economic plan.

Borja, who is No. 1 on the ballot, said he will also immediately get the government and business leaders' opinion as to which parts of the immigration federalization law or U.S. Public Law 110-229 should be clarified or changed to help the CNMI economy grow.

Camacho, who is currently a practicing attorney just like Borja, said "this election is about jobs and bringing more money to the CNMI."

"U.S. citizens want to work. As a community, we cannot prosper by sending U.S. citizens to food stamp lines. As U.S. citizens, we want to work and should be given first priority for jobs. When U.S. citizens work, they can truly improve their lives," he said, adding that this can be done by improving the economy.

His plans include improving tourism, maximizing the economic benefits of the Guam military buildup, and building a shipyard in the CNMI.

Camacho, who is No. 2 on the ballot, said some 20 years ago, foreign workers were brought to the CNMI to supplement the local workforce. Nowadays, he said, foreign workers compete with U.S. citizens for jobs.

CNMI businesses, however, rely on skilled foreign workers and professionals—from engineers, architects, technicians, accountants, and even house helpers. Even critical government agencies such as the Department of Public Health rely on foreign nurses and doctors.

Camacho reiterated his opposition to the U.S. Department of the Interior report recommending improved status to foreign workers because it does not comply with the law for lack of proper consultation.

He said it is "unacceptable" that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has yet to release regulations on foreign investors and foreign workers two years after the federalization law was signed and almost a year after actual federal border control was implemented on Nov. 28, 2009.

In the end, however, Sablan said he is the only one with a job experience that matters: being a member of Congress.

"You sent me to Congress to work hard for you. I have… Times are tough in the Northern Marianas; and times are going to be tougher and tougher in Washington. That's why we cannot afford a congressman who is 'learning on the job.' We need someone who already knows the job," he said.

Sablan, who is No. 3 on the ballot, said the CNMI sees the results of his hard work, including voting for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act which has brought $100 million to the CNMI, provided $11 million in tax cuts for families here, saved 105 teaching jobs, provided 5,200 laptops for students, and $250 checks for everyone on Social Security here.

Babauta, at one point, had to say, "Right, governor?" when he was talking about the need for the delegate to work together with the governor and members of the Legislature.

Babauta, Borja, and Camacho had said publicly that the Sablan does not work with Fitial, to which Sablan said is not true. He said it's Fitial who is not working with him.

There was almost nothing new in the positions, views, and rebuttals shared by the candidates on issues of economy, education, military, marine monument, and alternative energy. Most of what they shared at the debate has already been known to the public.

They all said the current relationship between the U.S. and the CNMI is a "good one" and an envy of other territories. They said the idea of reunification with Guam is a long shot and may never happen in their lifetime.

It was not all issues at the debate, but laughter too.

When Babauta's turn to make his five-minute closing statement came, he stood up and said, "My name is Juan Nekai Babauta and I am No. 3 on the ballot."

The audience said "No. 4," and he then said, "I mean No. 4," and the audience laughed and clapped their hands.

Depending on whom one asks as winner or loser at the debate, members of the audience rooted for their own candidates. One of the audience members even said he would vote for his "cousin," and not necessarily because of his qualification.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who was among the hundreds who came to witness the debate, said in general the four candidates did a good job in educating the voters but he made a swipe at Sablan.

"I think the three candidates, not the incumbent, they zoomed in on the economy and I fully, wholeheartedly endorse their comment because the economy is the problem," Fitial told reporters.

Dr. John Griffin of the Northern Marianas College's Business Department chair, served as moderator at the debate held at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan.

FITIAL

From Page 1

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, in an interview, said the needed revision of revenue estimates to keep the government running results from $10 million to $11 million in additional obligations to the NMI Retirement Fund and health insurance that were not included in his budget submission to the Legislature on April 1.

"I'm revising the estimates very soon. [It will be] $10 million or $11 million less than $132 million," he told *Saipan Tribune* right after the delegate debate at the Fiesta Resort & Spa in Garapan on Wednesday night.

Just a few years back, the government's spending cap was over $200 million but has since been steadily declining until it reached only $137 million in FY 2010 and then to $132 million in FY 2011 and may soon drop to some $122 million.

The governor said his April spending plan did not include an August 2010 court order requiring the government to remit retirement contributions at an employer contribution rate of 30 percent beginning Oct. 1, up from the current 20 percent.

The additional 10 percent costs some $6.4 million.

Also not included in his original budget submission is the new rates set by the government's health insurance provider, Aetna, that will apply beginning Nov. 1, 2010.

This will cost an additional $4.1 million.

Fitial said the Reduction-in-Force Committee headed by Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos is coming up with a plan on how the government will deal with the additional $10 million obligation.

Among the considerations, he said, is increasing the 16-hour cut and letting go of non-essential positions.

But the governor and press secretary Angel Demapan made it clear that all these are preliminary information, pending a complete review of government spending and revenue analysis.

"It's going to be clear cut. Every position will be accounted for," Fitial said, referring to the plan.

Senate President Paul Manglona (R-Rota), when asked for comment yesterday, said the additional obligations not factored into the newly signed budget law gives more reason for the House to pass revenue-generating bills.

"As I mentioned before, we need to focus now on efforts to improve tax collection efforts and look at revenue-generating bills. We can't sit idly by and wait for things to happen," he said.

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, said the panel is not ready yet to report any revenue-generating bill out of the committee in time for today's session.

He said they still need to conduct public hearings on bills raising business license fees and taxes.

A deadlock between the House and the Senate resulted in non-passage of a budget bill by the Sept. 30 deadline, forcing the governor to issue an executive order on a government shutdown until a budget bill is passed and signed.

The shutdown began on Oct. 1 and ended when Fitial signed the budget bill into law on Oct. 10, or two days after the Legislature passed the measure.

Inos, in a separate interview, said it is "counterproductive" to raise taxes and fees at this time when businesses are already hurting.

"The cost of doing business keeps going up. The minimum wage keeps going up… It's very difficult to increase taxes and fees during a recession because you just don't have the economy to support such… It could be counterproductive…" the lieutenant governor said.

Inos, a former Finance secretary, said if the government increases taxes, this would increase the price of goods, and the demands for these goods decrease.

As a result, gross receipts tax and other collateral benefits drop, he said.

The governor also said he will be requesting departments and agencies to submit new budget proposal for their respective offices incorporating the new government obligations.

Demapan said this letter will be prepared and requested by the Office of Management and Budget.

"At this time, OMB has yet to issue its letter," he said yesterday.

The Fitial administration will start implementing the 16-hour work cut per pay period on Oct. 24 through a combination of every-other-Friday off and one-hour cut from Mondays to Thursdays.

Retirees urge House to 'kill' early retirement measure

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Disappointed that the Senate approved the early retirement proposal, Commonwealth retirees have turned to the House of Representatives and appealed for the lower chamber to kill the legislation and save the NMI Retirement Fund.

Juan M. Sablan, chairman of the Commonwealth Retirees Association, expressed their strong opposition to Senate Bill 17-29, which endorses the early retirement of members from the program.

"Please kill this bill because it will accelerate the death of the Fund. There was no actuarial study to determine the viability of such legislation before the Senate passed S.B. 17-29. Any legislation that addresses benefits for its members must first have actuarial study before it is considered," wrote Sablan in his letter to Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio Tuesday.

Sablan claimed that over the years, the Legislature passed about 20 laws that either increased the pension benefits or increased operating expenses of the Fund.

Senate Bill 17-29, introduced by Sen. Jovita M. Taimanao, proposed to allow NMI Retirement Fund members who have not yet met the required number of vested years to retire early without having to pay the required lump sum contribution in one time.

Instead these members will be allowed to pay for their early retirement contributions over time, at a rate and structure to be determined by the Fund.

The bill was introduced after it was found out that many government employees want to retire early but are prevented from doing so because of the lump sum contribution as required by Public Law 15-70.

The bill also allows Class I members to avail early retirement without negatively affecting the solvency of the Fund, while at the same time reducing the number of government employees.

For Class II members, they may retire on a service retirement annuity upon written application to the board of trustees. Under existing laws, Class II members who are at least 60 years old may already retire; while Class II members who have 25 years of membership service may retire upon approval of the board.

The bill also aims to reduce the 25-year membership service to 15 years, in order for Class II members to retire. Class II members are all employees who were Fund members prior to May 7, 1989, and have not transferred membership to Class I.

All employees of the CNMI government, public corporations, agencies, and instrumentalities hired on or after May 7, 1989 but before Jan. 1, 2007 are Class I members.

"By transferring the payroll responsibilities of active government employees who are members of the Defined Benefit Plan to retire earlier than expected is definitely not sound financial decision to the Fund. We would like to see the Fund continue its existence for the benefits of the retirees and active members… do not continue to shorten its life span by passing H.B. 17-29," added Sablan.

Saipan Tribune learned that of the approximately 3,500 members of the defined benefit plan who have yet to retire, 331 would be eligible for early retirement before Dec. 31, 2010—without reduced pension if the early retirement bill is enacted into law.

Weekend Prepaid Sale
October 16, 2010 (Saturday)
From 10am to 2pm.
Dolphin Wholesale (San Jose)
island Cruizer
cool deals on wheels
LG MG160
$50.00*
[with FREE Prepaid SIM & $10 Load]
[GSM Dual Band • Non-Camera Phone]
Motorola W396
$65.00*
[with FREE Prepaid SIM & $10 Load]
[GSM Tri Band • Camera Phone]
$55 without Prepaid SIM card
Motorola v3xx
$99.00*
[with FREE Prepaid SIM & $10 Load]
[GSM Quad Band • Camera phone]
$89 without Prepaid SIM card
IT&E GSM Network
IT&E GSM SIM Card
$5.00 only
with $5 Load
GSM Prepaid Roaming also available on Guam
FREE AIRTIME! when using PTI & IT&E Long Distance Prepaid Cards
*Cannot keep number • while supplies last • No phonebook transfer • Credit cards will not be accepted • some conditions apply
IT&E
Life in Motion
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net

Natural Massage
$15 PER HOUR
2:00pm to 3:00am
- Shoulder to Waist Body Massage.
- Oil & Foot Massage.

We are located at Beach Road, Chalan Kanoa, Silver Hotel, next to Sashimi House.
Tel: 285 - 2010

HARDT EYE CLINIC

Whether you have an emergency, need a comprehensive eye exam or just have a simple question, we're here to help!

235-2030
Yes, we accept your insurance.
All major insurance plans accepted.

Ethics prosecutor suggests suspension, probation for Govendo

» Audit on judge's past hearings also sought

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Special ethics prosecutor Bruce A. Bradley suggested to the CNMI Supreme Court the suspension or the placing on probation of Superior Court associate judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Bradley also suggested to the high court to undertake an audit of the past few years of hearings that Govendo has conducted.

"It is difficult to consider the facts of this case without wondering whether the incidents the court has before it may merely be the proverbial tip of the iceberg," said Bradley in his memorandum regarding discipline filed Wednesday night in the Supreme Court.

The Guam-based special ethics prosecutor filed the memorandum to assist the Supreme Court on what appropriate sanctions should be imposed on Govendo. The hearing on the sanctions issue will be today, Friday, at 9am.

The Supreme Court had found the judge's use of "adios muchacho" and other statements in court in two adoption cases to be racially derogatory and a violation of canons and rules for judicial conduct.

Govendo in his sanctioning memorandum filed Wednesday afternoon, stated that he has been unable to find any cases similar to his own.

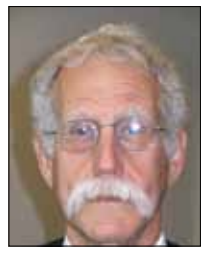
Govendo said he believes that this is because cases like his were most likely handled by private admonishment rather than by public reprimand.

In his memorandum, the special ethics prosecutor said it does not seem plausible that the court now knows of all incidents of misconduct Govendo has engaged in.

"The court might consider a period of suspension from the bench with such suspension, at respondent's election, to be held in abeyance with respondent placed on probation while an audit is undertaken of the past few years of hearings he has conducted," he said.

Bradley said if the respondent (Govendo) does not elect to take advantage of such a probationary term he would be ordered to serve the period of suspension although the audit should go forward nonetheless.

He said if additional problematic hearings are discovered they should be brought the Court's attention for a determination of whether the suspension ought to be fully imposed or, if suspension has already been invoked, a new ethics matter may need to be instituted.


Govendo

"If an audit is conducted and turns up significant issues with respondent on probation there must be an avenue through which more serious discipline than imposition of the stayed suspension could be pursued," the prosecutor said.

Bradley said the respondent has yet to acknowledge wrongdoing of any sort, regardless of the Supreme Court's entry of an order making multiple findings of misconduct.

The special ethics prosecutor said the recent discovery of the October 2008 sentencing hearing of defendant Kurk Palacios conducted by Govendo "is more troubling."

In the Palacios hearing, Bradley cited at least six Govendo statements that allegedly contained inappropriate language.

The CNMI Supreme Court has found that Govendo engaged in misconduct on the bench during the March 2006 and April 2006 adoption hearings and then again during the July 2007 Roger Castillo hearing.

Bradley noted that a time line of when the various relevant proceedings occurred is important for the court to consider.

He said the two adoption hearings took place in March and April 2006, the Castillo hearing happened in July 2007, and the Palacios hearing was in October 2008.

Bradley pointed out that relevant to a determination of the appropriate sanction in this matter is the fact that this court's opinion resulting from the appeal of the two 2006 adoption hearings was issued in December 2007.

"Thus the opinion was issued ten months prior to the October 2008 Palacios hearing," he said.

The prosecutor said given the court's statement in the December 2007 opinion, the timing of the opinion relative to the Palacios hearing is significant.

Bradley said in its December 2007 opinion, the Supreme Court admonished Govendo for his use of inappropriate language during the two adoption hearings.

He said the court specifically stated that "the trial court's language [in both of the adoption hearings before the trial court] does not meet the reasonable observer's appearance of justice. We are confident that the trial court will satisfy the appearance of justice on remand."

Then, Bradley said, less than 10 months later, Govendo conducted the Palacios sentencing hearing.

"That hearing provides stark support for the contention that respondent remained unaware of what might amount to inappropriate language on the bench," he said.

Bradley said of paramount concern for this court in this case must be the integrity of the judicial process and the importance of the public's confidence in the judiciary.

He said Rule 34 of the Commonwealth Rules of Judicial Disciplinary Procedure allows for the suspension, public reprimand or censure of a respondent.

Rule 34, he added, allows for the imposition of a monetary fine or an assessment of the costs and expenses incurred relative to the matter.

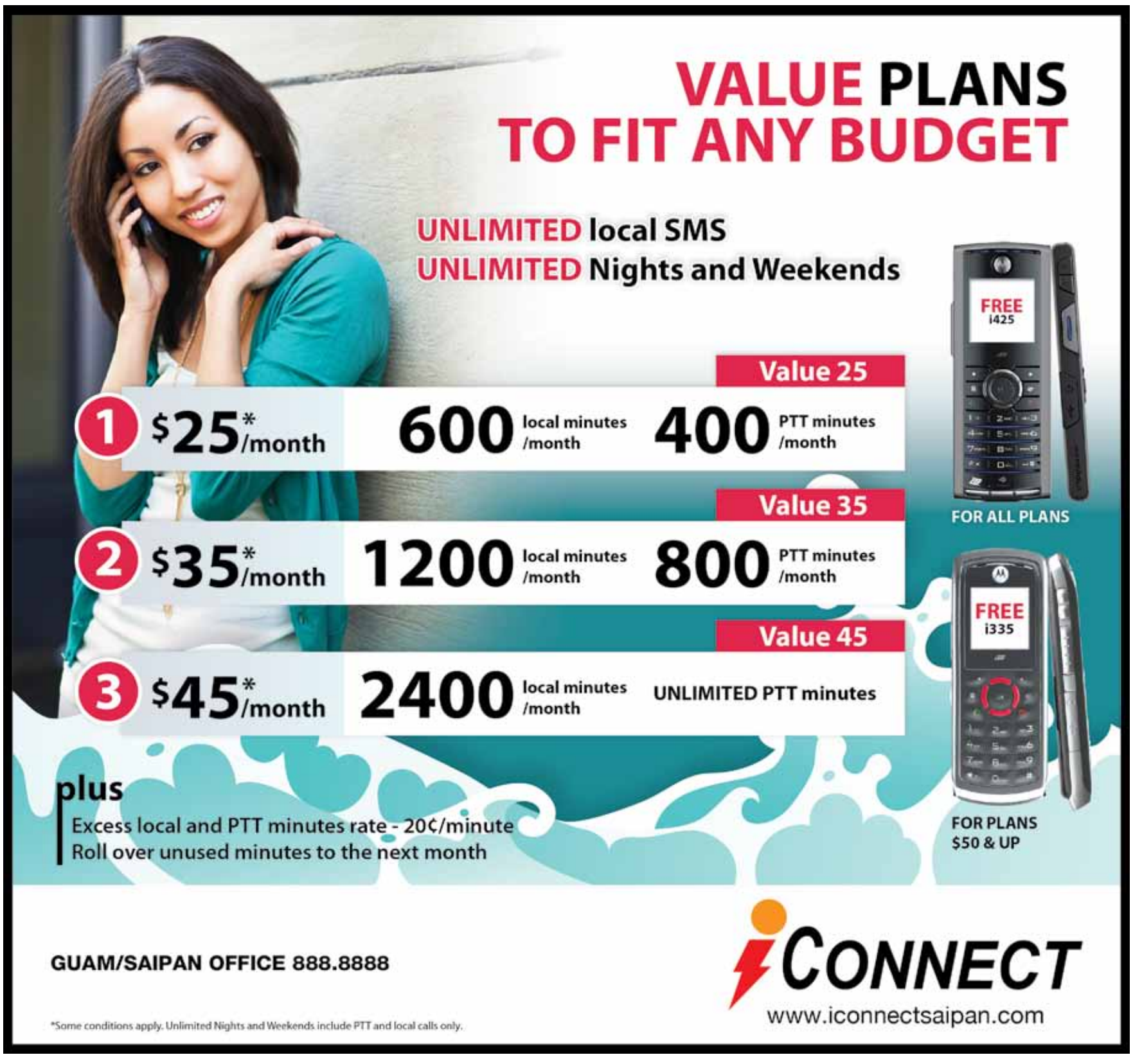
Rule 34 also allows for the imposition of conditions limiting a judge's performance of judicial duties.

Bradley said the Supreme Court has not adopted a specific methodology to be employed when determining an appropriate sanction in judicial discipline matters.

He said review of how other jurisdictions handle sanction determinations in judicial discipline matters may assist this court.

He said while substantive rules and procedural rules relative to conduct and discipline of judges vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, every jurisdiction contemplates sanctioning a judge's unacceptable conduct on the bench.

Bradley cited numerous similar cases from different jurisdictions.



CUC's small claims fill up court's docket

The Superior Court's docket was filled yesterday with several cases of small claims filed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. against individuals and businesses who failed to pay their electric and water billings.

The court's weekly general calendar listed 85 small claims filed by CUC mostly against individuals for the pre-judgment hearing.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos presided over the hearing. Attorney Joshua Berger served as counsel for CUC.

Saipan Tribune learned that of the 85 cases, only about 40 were heard as some defendants were not served with summons, while others were off-island.

A court staff observed that it is the first time that a big number of small claims filed by CUC.

"It is scary. A lot of people cannot pay their power and water now," another court staff said.

Small claims involve disputed amount less than $3,000. At a small claim hearings, individuals, representing themselves, resolve disputes quickly in an informal setting. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

JOETEN'S

2-DAY SALE!

with EARLY BIRD SAVINGS Fri. & Sat., October 15 & 16

Men's Aloha Shirts and Knit Shirts
25%off

Mens Slacks and Jeans
25%off

Ladies Blouse, Shorts and Slacks
25%off

Infant Carrier and Strollers
20%off

Shoes & Sandals
20%off

Toys & Games
20%off

Housewares
25%off

Bicycles & Tricycles
25%off

Sunglasses & Reading Glasses
25%off

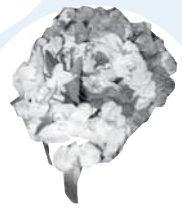
Rugs & Linen
25%off

Wicker Baskets
25%off

Samsonite Luggage
25%off

Office & School Supplies
25%off

Telephone and Wallclocks
25%off



Artificial Flowers
25%off

Jergens Lotion 10oz.
3 FOR $7.00

Colgate Toothpaste 8.2oz.
2 FOR $6.00

Aquarium Hand Soap 8oz.
2 FOR $3.00

Supermarket

Folgers Instant Coffee Jar 12oz.
$8.75

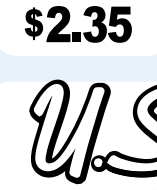
CSR Sugar White Poly 2kg./4.4lbs.
$2.25

Maseca Corn Flour 4.4 lb.
$3.75

Sapporo Ichiban Original 3.5oz.
$8.78/cs.

ACE Diamond Tuna Veg. Oil 7oz.
$1.10

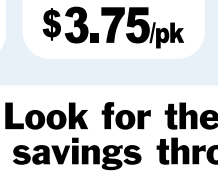
Palm Corned Beef 12oz.
$2.55



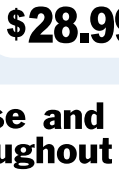
Hormel Spam 12oz. Any Flavor
$2.35

Kikkoman Soy Sauce 1.6 Liter
$3.95

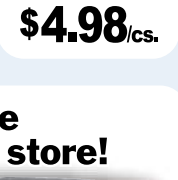
Crab Navy/Ship Biscuit
99¢



Caprisun Assorted Juices 10x6oz.
$3.75/pk



Diamond G Calrose Rice 50 lbs.
$28.99



Seoksu Spring Water 20x350ml.
$4.98/cs.

U.S. Produce

Look for these and more great savings throughout our store!

U.S. Apple Fuji
$1.29/lb.

U.S. Yellow Onion
65¢ lb.

Carrots Cello
69¢ lb.

US Potato
65¢ lb.

US Orange
79¢ lb.

U.S. Green Cabbage
69¢ lb.

U.S. Extra Large Eggs
$2.19/dz.

Visit us for more savings at our Produce section!

Aiko's SNACK BAR

Accepts Phone Orders

Lunch is available Monday through Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Please call 234-6445 for daily specials!

LOW LOW PRICES

Frozen Products

Chicken Leg Quarters 33lbs./cs.
$22.45/cs.

New Zealand Boneless Beef Clod
$2.09/lb.

New Zealand Beef Shoulder Steak Family Bag 8lb.
$15.99/bg.

Ground Beef 10 lbs. Tube
$17.50

Beef Finger Meat
$3.10/lb.

US Pork Spareribs 2 Down Danish 10lb.
$20.89

Tilapia Whole 600 to 800 Grams
$1.09/lb.

Big Buy Bacon Vacpac 1lb (Limit 12)
$1.99

Come for more selections!

Joeten Shopping Center

P.O. Box 500137 Saipan, MP 96950 - Tel. 234-6446/48 Fax. 234-5876

Thank you for shopping at all Joeten Stores: Joeten Shopping Center Susupe, Hafa Adai Shopping Center, Dandan Shopping Center and Big Bargain Chalan Piao

We accept major credit cards - We welcome Foodstamps - We reserve the right to limit quantities

We are not responsible for any typographical or printing error

'Changes, improvements for NMC Student Center long overdue'

The newly installed officers of the Associated Students of Northern Marianas College placed the institution's Student Center as one of their top priorities after hearing the concerns of colleagues.

Nursing student Ki Young Kim, the newly elected ASNMC treasurer, admitted that due to lack of improvements, only a handful of students frequent the center.

Kim admitted that there are concerns on both the center's management and the existing setup inside the facility.

The ASNMC submitted a proposal to revisit the center's rules and regulations as well as the facility's makeover plan.

Based on their findings, rules are not being properly obeyed by students therefore they recommended some fines and penalties to be established to make everyone accountable at the center.

To do the makeover, a painting party for students is being planned by the student council where they will encourage students to volunteer their service. For the grand mural, they plan to hold an arts contest to be opened to the community.

Board of Regents members Elaine Orilla and Andrew Orsini both lauded the new ASNMC officers for demonstrating their commitment to serve the college.

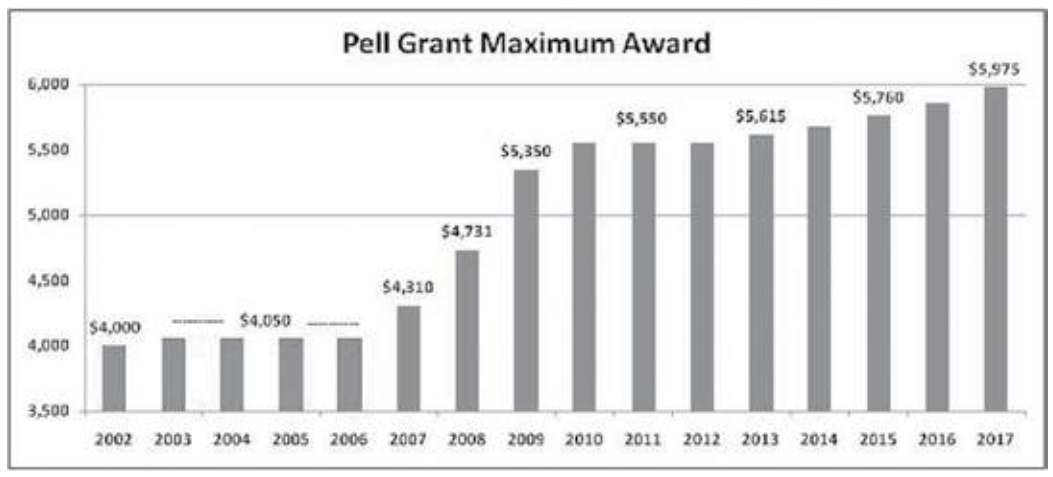
They admitted that students concerns and problems on the student center have been on the table for quite some time, but no solutions have been adopted.

NMC interim president Lorraine T. Cabrera disclosed that soon after the installation of new ASNMC officers, students met with her and brought the same concern to her attention.

Like the regents, Cabrera was impressed on the proposed plan of action submitted to her office. She vowed to convey the message to Student Programs dean Leo Pangelinan. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

Pell grants up, more NMI students benefiting from new law

The average Pell grant to help low-income students from the Northern Marianas pay for college jumped 22 percent this school year, to $3,791, according to data released by the Committee on Education and Labor of the U.S. House of Representatives.



Congressman Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, a member of the committee and one of the 22 original co-sponsors of the law increasing Pell grants, says that the number of NMI college students receiving the tuition grants also increased by 24 percent.

"There are now 980 college students at Northern Marianas College and off-island, collecting a total $3.7 million to help them get their degrees," Sablan reports.

"That is 186 more students getting help with their tuition than before we passed the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act in March. And about $700 more on average for each student.

"I am very pleased to see such an immediate impact right here in the Northern Marianas as a result of the changes in national education policy that I helped push through Congress."

The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act (SAFRA), first passed the House of Representatives in 2009, and then was signed into law as part of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010.

The law increases eligibility for the Pell grants and also increases the maximum dollar amount of the grants. This year's maximum is $5,550, but the grant increases each year to keep up with rising costs for higher education. The following chart shows the changes in Pell grants from 2002 to 2017.

Pell grants were also increased in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, one of the first bills that Sablan voted to support as a new member of Congress in 2009.

He then joined Chairman George Miller and other members of the Education and Labor Committee in sponsoring SAFRA, which included even more Pell grant aid, as well as significant changes in the federal tuition loan programs.

"By cutting out the middle man in the loan process we were able to save the federal government $86 billion.

"$36 billion of those savings were then passed on to Pell grant students, broadening eligibility, and increasing grant awards.

"Cutting out the middle man also results in lower interest rates for tuition loans," Sablan said.

As of July 1, the interest rates on subsidized federal student loans decreases from 5.6 percent to 4.5 percent.

Repayment terms are also improved. Federal student loan borrowers can have their loan payments reduced, based on income and family size. For most eligible borrowers, loan payments will be less than 10 percent of their income.

In addition, SAFRA provides funding for College Access Challenge Grants. NMC is eligible to receive $7.5 million over the next five years from the program, which is designed to help students facing barriers to entering college and completing their degrees. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 15, 1999

BOE to tap volunteers, other gov't agencies to help in Nov. 6 elections

The Board of Elections will tap community volunteers and employees of other government agencies to assist in conducting the midterm elections on Nov. 6, the election chief said yesterday. BOE Executive Director Gregorio Sablan said the administration has instructed heads of government agencies to lend some of their employees to supplement the election office's regular manpower. He said the board is awaiting lists of poll watchers and tabulators to be selected by the Republican, Democratic and Reform parties. Independent candidates are required to send their own poll supervisors during the political exercise.

Jollibee chooses Herman's Bakery

Herman's Modern Bakery, a local business now celebrating its 55th anniversary on Saipan, has been selected to provide baked goods for the new Jollibee restaurant set to open its first restaurant in CNMI next month. A favorite fast food chain in the Philippines, Jollibee will open in the former location of the Liberty Plaza Department Store next to Kristo Rai Church in Garapan, according YCO Corporation, which owns the territorial franchise for the popular international chain. Gil A. Salvosa, the quality assurance manager for Jollibee, said Herman's was chosen due to its reputation for high quality products.

Oct. 15, 2001

DOF seeks clarifications in 911 bill

The Department of Finance has expressed several concerns over a bill that would create a CNMI-wide 911 emergency call system, saying that several provisions on the bill need to be addressed first. In a letter to Rep. Rosiky F. Camacho, chairman of the House Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communication, Finance Secretary Lucy Nielsen pointed out several provisions on House Bill 12-407 that she said needs clarifications. The proposed legislation would authorize the Department of Finance to collect a surcharge of $1 a month per access line from the local telephone service provider. The same rate-$1 per account number-applies to commercial wireless service providers.

MVA urged: Do away with Saipanda

Saipanda mascot virtually represents only Saipan, prompting participants to the Hafa Adai Hospitality Program to ask tourism industry players what has the mascot done to Rota and Tinian. Participants said Saipanda mascot only represents Saipan. "What have you done to the other islands?" officials of hotels and tour agencies asked. University of Guam instructor Norman Aguilar said promotions should blanket all the other islands to effectively promote the CNMI as a preferred tourist destination. "This is a marketing tool that MVA deemed to use. This is in fact, a good marketing tool to promote Saipan," said Aguilar during the presentation.

Oct. 15, 2002

Head Start improvement plan approved

The Department of Health and Human Services Head Start Office in San Francisco recently stamped its approval to the Public School System's Head Start Quality Improvement Plan, which addresses 17 core questions identified by the federal agency as the CNMI's weakest. Jan Len, director of Child and Youth Development Unit, Administration for Children and Families, officially informed Board of Education Chair Herman T. Guerrero of the QIP's approval last month. In keeping with efforts to address the CNMI Head Start program's noted areas of weaknesses, the QIP Steering Committee has slated quarterly activities, which started this October, to monitor the progress of the items outlined in the QIP.

BoS depositors renews call against MOU with CDA

The proposed memorandum of understanding with the Commonwealth Development Authority ensures the release of all government's money plus interest but would leave other Bank of Saipan depositors to tend for their own welfare. According to the Save Our Savings-a newly formed group of Bank of Saipan depositors-the MOU, which was proposed by former BoS receiver Randall Fennell, will only benefit the CDA and other government agencies like the NMI Retirement Fund and the Marianas Public Lands Authority. Based on the request for approval of the MOU, the government's lending arm will receive about $16 million of BoS loans to equal the deposits that the various government agencies have currently deposited in the bank.

Youth Congress election hangs in the balance

The election of the Youth Congress on Monday may not take place because of pending legislation at the House of Representative that recommends the postponement of the exercise.

House Bill 17-87, authored by Rep. Stanley Torres, has already secured the approval of the Senate with minor amendments and was sent back to the House for final action.

However, the House is set to take action on the legislation Friday morning during its scheduled session.

Torres admitted that he is confident that both minority and majority members of the House would support the measure, based on his initial consultation with them.

"They will support this bill and it would be passed on Friday [at the session]," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Legislative Bureau director Glenna Palacios-Reyes expressed her support to the measure, saying that this will help address the low election turnout in many places.

Besides the postponement of the election in March next year, the measure also recommends to eliminate the polling places in precinct levels and the Northern Marianas College. This also proposed reorganization in the number of youth senators which currently has 23 seats from schools and precinct levels.

According to Reyes, there are seven seats in the precinct levels and three for the NMC under the existing law. If the bill is enacted, all these will be eliminated. The same pending legislation also recommends to increase the representatives in the school levels, which would reflect one youth senator for every 300 students in each school.

As of Wednesday, Reyes' office was preparing for the Youth Congress poll scheduled on Oct. 18. She revealed that there are 20 certified candidates in this year's poll from schools, precincts, and NMC.

If the bill is passed on Friday, Reyes said the same candidates would be running in the March election. She said preparations will continue until the House takes action on the bill.

Saipan Tribune learned that only the printing of ballots remains to be done. ***(Moneth G. Deposa)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated birthday greetings go out to Patrick Cruz who celebrated his birthday last Oct. 13. Greetings coming from your Mom, Dad, and your brother PJ.

CONRIBUTED PHOTO

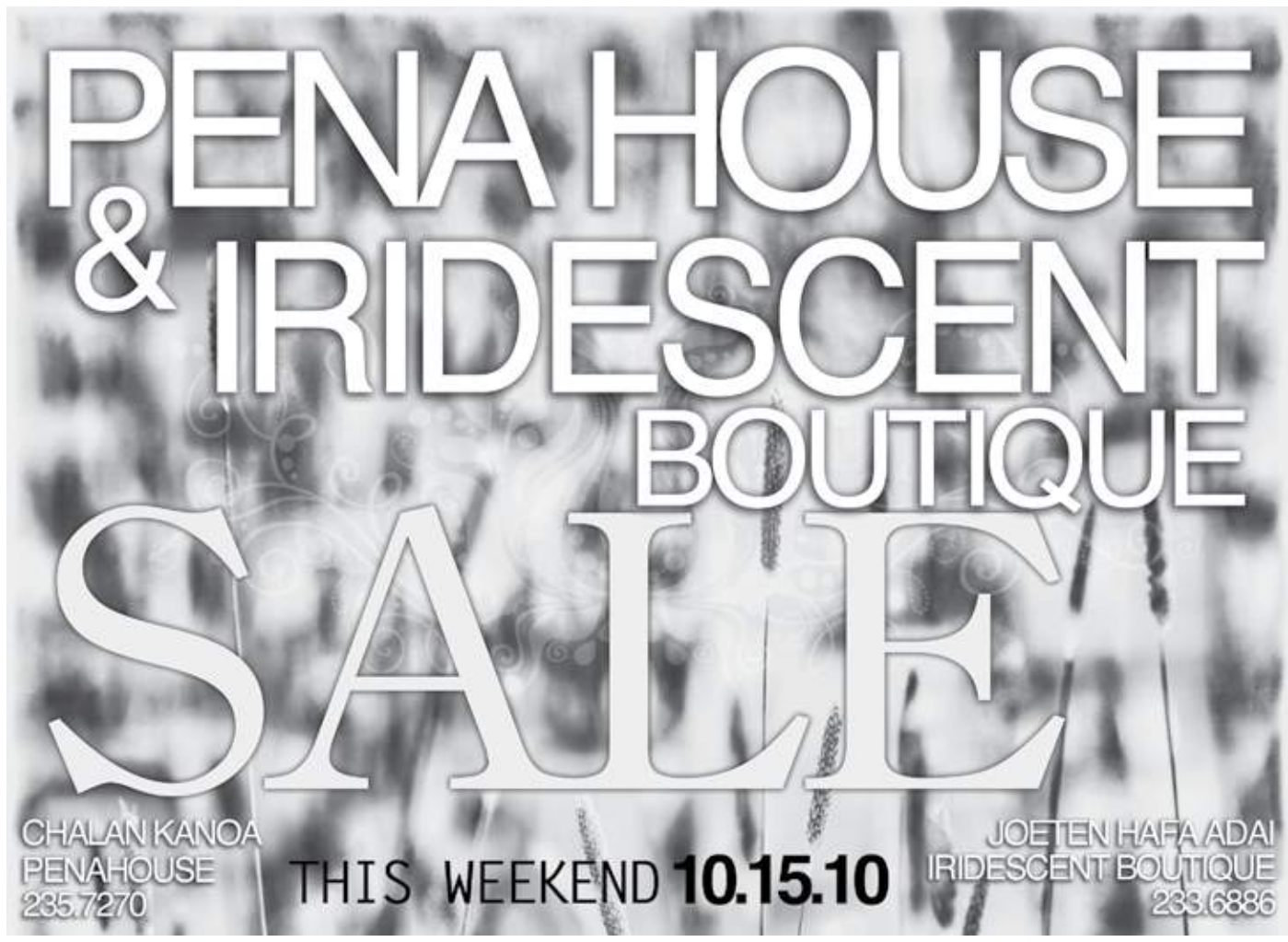
Belated birthday greetings go out to Shawn Fleming who celebrated his birthday last Oct. 14. Coming out from all your friends and family.

CONTRIBITED PHOTO

Happy birthday to Grecia Seman Reyes and many more to come. We love you very much, from Mom and Dad.

Belated birthday greetings go out to Corazon Prado who celebrated her birthday last Oct. 14. May you have many more birthdays to come and God bless. From your Joeten Ace Hardware Family.

CONRIBUTED PHOTO



Please VOTE
2
Joseph Norita
CAMACHO
A Qualified Candidate for U.S. Delegate
Covenant
Education
Graduate, Marianas High School
Graduate, CNMI Police Academy, 8th Cycle
Associate of Arts Degree, Northern Marianas College
Bachelor's Degree in History, San Jose State University
Masters Degree in Public Administration, Seattle University
Law Degree, Gonzaga University
Experience
Attorney-at-Law, Private Practice
Floor Leader, 16th CNMI Legislature
Instructor, Northern Marianas College
"Let's work together for the best interests of the CNMI"
Leadership you can count on.
Representation you deserve.
Paid for by the Committee-to-Elect Camacho for Congress

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 246

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Justify a 'hit list'

Should a federal court have any say over whether a U.S. citizen can be targeted for killing by his own government without due process of law? The Obama administration has submitted a lengthy document to a federal court that can be summed up in one disappointing word: No.

The Justice Department's attempt to keep the courts out of the case of Anwar Awlaki, an al-Qaeda propagandist thought to be hiding in Yemen, is reminiscent of the Bush administration's aversion to any meaningful involvement by the courts in the war on terror. The judiciary shouldn't agree to be sidelined.

It has been widely reported that Awlaki, a U.S. citizen, is on a "targeted killings" list. In its filing with a federal District Court, the Justice Department insists that Awlaki is more than simply a mouthpiece for al-Qaeda. Citing a statement by James R. Clapper, the director of national intelligence, the department argues that since late 2009 Awlaki has "taken on an increasingly operational role" in the group al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, including preparing Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab to detonate an explosive device aboard a Northwest Airlines plane last Christmas.

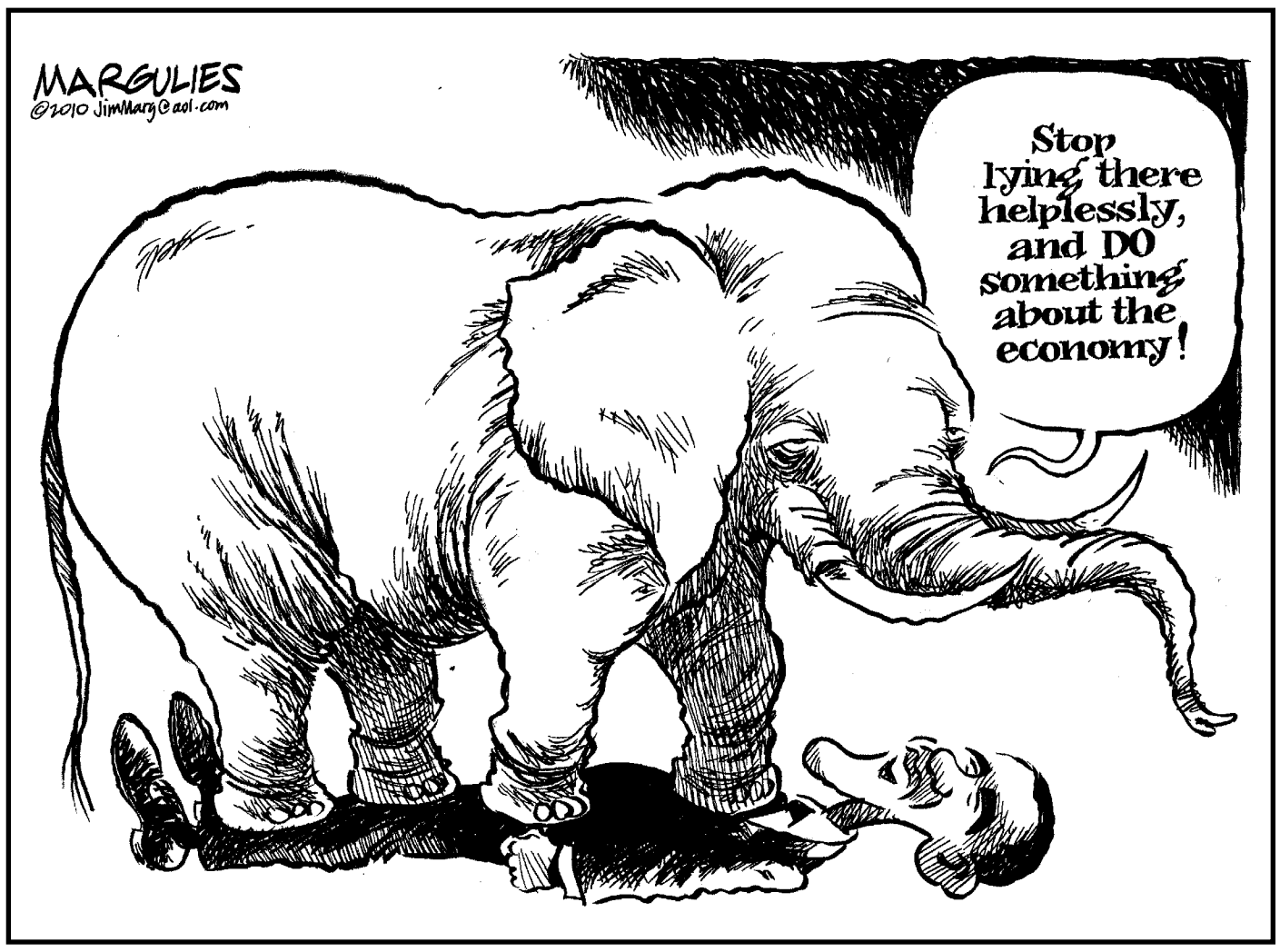
We have no reason to doubt that characterization of Awlaki. But before the government begins targeting its own citizens for assassination far from a combat zone, it should, at the very least, have to explain to a court why such an extraordinary step doesn't violate the Constitution, which promises that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. In a pending lawsuit, Awlaki's father asks the court to rule that his son can't be killed outside armed conflict "unless he is found to present a concrete, specific and imminent threat to life or physical safety, and there are no means other than lethal force that could reasonably be employed to neutralize the threat."

In response, the Justice Department sprays the court with a variety of legal arguments to have the case thrown out. For example: Awlaki's father lacks standing to sue because Awlaki himself could have access to the courts if he surrendered. Here's another: Proceeding would involve the judiciary in "political questions" reserved to the president and his advisers.

And if the court doesn't accept these and other arguments, the administration says it will invoke the much-abused "state secrets privilege" to stop the litigation.

We don't underestimate the problems that would be created if the judiciary intervened in the day-to-day national security decisions of the president, the armed forces or the CIA. But that is not what is being proposed here. Assassinating a U.S. citizen away from a battlefield is such a momentous step that the administration should have to justify its reasoning, in secret if necessary, to a court of law.

(c) 2010, Los Angeles Times.



Kiss my Alz

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

"You know you're in trouble when you try to find out who the culprit is that keeps forgetting to flush the toilet, and then you realize, you are the only one who lives in the house!" That quote is not original with me but it might as well, considering our total identification with the reality it is pointing to.

The Man'amko Center virtually decreed as a non-essential service might have raised a few blood pressures, particularly in a climate where guarding one's prerogatives and entitlements is up there in the same league as pursuing the holy grail, but it also revealed that what is essential is a function of the mind. Essence is in the eye of the beholder!

Lang's attempt to ram the casino bill down everyone's throat has failed but not for lack of trying. At the onset of his speakership of the House, he vowed to pass a budget within a month. Had focusing on passing the budget been the core of legislative deliberation rather than subverting the process to ooze in surreptitiously an unpopular proposal, he might have been successful. We watched the folly of it all as again, and again, the monstrous head of the casino proposal kept popping up at every bend. Lang has rightfully sensed that he had lost the mandate to lead.

Now comes Tony who seemed to have missed his calling as a replacement for Bishop Tom and tends to pontificate over things he is passionate about, a quality some of us loves him for, and to others, grates on the nerves. He recently offered a sharp dichotomy between those who favor change and those who seem to take their time moving away from their dreamy hold on the accomplishments of the past. That, and the easy slide into blaming someone else for the travails of the present, preferably on one whose offices is traceable to any of the rooms on Gualo Rai's Horiguchi building, and whose logo includes a spread eagle. Those who refuse to change tend to be older, he claims, giving a nod to a younger generation unencumbered with fidelity to bygone days.

But it is not all a function of age. Take the case of our deliberative process. We may not be all familiar with the Robert's Rules of Order, the recognized guide to running meetings and conferences effectively and fairly. Or, at least, that was what it was intended to be when leading a divided house into efficient decision making. The assumption and beginning point is the divided house.

Now, it is the reverse. Sometimes we have a diverse group of people encouraged by our meeting rules to declare affirmation or opposition to an issue, encouraging the division of the house. In the time of the Magna Carta between Lords and King, or the House of Lords and House of Commons where Constitutions were sat down until provisions no longer applied and amendments were called for, these assumed a divided house. That is no longer the case.

In fact, many NGO Board Meetings conduct decision-making on a consensus building methodology rather than the flourish of debate between two contending positions. Cooperative and collaborative means tend to result when tactics and maneuvers, proposals, policies and programs are designed from dialogue rather than debate. We actually inculcate forensic skills among our young in the school systems, teaching contending parties to locate flaws in the arguments of the other rather than seek the foundations of a common ground.

Friendly folks in a legislature tend to fray their collegiality and goodwill just by the frequency by which they divide the house; they firm up political alliances that has more to do with bragging rights than doing what is the necessary deed, which is by its nature, the free deed.

In the '60s to the '80s, we found the theme of stewardship as the guiding quality to business leadership, not infallible authority as previously practiced by ownership rights but leadership through clarity of vision and do-ability of mission.

Colleagues Jon Jenkins (who unexpectedly died this year) and his wife Maureen out of Brussels of the International Association of Facilitators issued in 2006 their life-long reflection on the facilitative quality of leadership, a focus on methodology that puts a high premium on the technology of participation. That's a new understanding in our time that puts value on the authority of authenticity rather than the weight of decree. Obama is a practitioner of this art in my book.

There are those among the young unwilling to shake off vestiges of inherited traditions and ways, and tend to resist change; there are those among the elderly, particularly those who savored the heady taste of rebellion that characterized the last 50 years, and have adopted a lifestyle of perpetual change. The tendency to change is not a function of age, in my experience. It is a function of will, the consequence of choice.

"Action removes the doubt that theory cannot solve," is a traditional saying that measures the effectiveness of leadership in our time. Agreements and disagreements on word play no longer hold a person's integrity, let alone, honor. Willingness to roll up sleeves and execute a deed, does. Planting one of MINA's trees does more for curbing carbon emissions than protesting the fossil fuel energy policy of the Chamber of Commerce.

Now, if only I can figure out who keeps forgetting to flush the toilet at my apartment.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Travel season, 2010: Let's get ready

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at TropicalEd.com. Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday.

Now that the Commonwealth's annual budget fight is over, before stocking up on Halloween candy it's time to start contemplating the upcoming holiday travel season. Insiders say that someairlines are counting on scaled-back capacity to buoy ticket prices this year. I sure wouldn't want to get caught as a last-minute shopper this season. Furthermore, it can take a long time to round up good travel gear in the Commonwealth, so mid-October isn't too early at all if you're serious about such things.

During some years I spend between 220 and 300 days on the road. Anyway, here are my road-warrior thoughts this time around:

1). Squishy little foam earplugs are essential for airline travel, at least if you want any hope of reclaiming your peace from talkative seatmates or shrieking babies. Unfortunately, it's hard to keep a pair of earplugs handy, since dropping them into a pants pocket full of germy coins and stuff isn't a compelling option.

Fortunately, I've noticed that the Flents line of "Quiet Please" foam earplugs are now being packaged with a useful little carrying case that holds one pair.

2). Those ubiquitously handy USB flash drives are not only essential to own, they are devilishly easy to lose, which makes them devilishly easy for somebody else to find. If you travel with these things, and everybody does, just assume that a nefarious weirdo is going to wind up with your drive.

But look on the bright side: You haven't lost a flash drive, you've gained a stalker.

3). Some of my peers are reporting trouble in the credit card realm. Credit card companies are apparently getting very wary, maybe overly so, about charges that occur outside of someone's usual spending patterns. Atypical activity can lead them to suspect that a bad guy is using your card. So, there you are, in some strange foreign city on a dark and stormy night, trying to get the last available hotel room within a 20-mile radius, and your credit card has been frozen.

One way to head this off is to call your credit card company to let them know where you'll be traveling. I do this sometimes. And, if possible, travel with at least two cards, so you've got an option if one goes sour on you. I do this all the time.

A chain of disasters once stranded me in Pago Pago with no credit cards and no cash, and I'm not anxious to repeat that experience.

4). Here's an annoyance that hit me earlier this month: My online brokerage firm froze my entire account because I logged onto it when I was on the road. Evidently, I'm supposed to stay at home 365 days a year, just to appease their idiotic notions of security. Needless to say, I'm switching brokerage firms.

5). As I promised, I've been keeping an eye on the e-book realm so I can report what I find. E-book readers have gotten cheaper, some are about $139 or so. I haven't seen one yet that I'd be willing to haul around. Sorry.

6). If you're traveling to some place exotic, where the drinking water might be a little too exciting, I'll note that prices for the Katadyn Pocket Filter, which is the Cadillac of portable filters, are finally settling down. They were approaching $300 or so, but Amazon lists one for $211.14 right now, which surprises me.

7). Many, I'll go so far as to say most, travel electronics are poorly designed and conspire to saddle us with an endless array of AC power bricks, chargers, proprietary cables, and so on. Says me: If it won't charge with a generic cable via a computer's USB port, then it's not worth buying.

8). Let's not forget that airlines are commonly charging fees for checked baggage these days. I'm seeing a lot of arguments at ticket counters about it. It's not like they keep this stuff a secret, the policies are posted all over the Internet. Anyway, as always, the happiest travelers are those who travel light.

9). It is legal to just plain relax on an airplane. Really, it is. It's a lousy environment for getting any work accomplished, so it serves as an enforced break to get some enjoyable reading done. I keep a list of books that I'm normally too busy to read so I can dig into them when I'm a passenger aloft. Light fare only. It gives me something frivolous to look forward to.

Letters to the Editor

House Legislative Initiatives in a nutshell

Just a little more than two weeks remain before voters will be asked to vote not only for the CNMI non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress, but also on three amendments to the CNMI Constitution. While access to information by and about the candidates has been plentiful, the same is not true in regard to the three proposed amendments. The CNMI Attorney General's office provided brief statements in one issue of one of the local newspapers (the *Saipan Tribune*'s Oct. 8 issue); and while there is said to be information going out over the radio and TV and via brochures and hand-outs—thanks to the efforts of Northern Marianas College Department Chair Sam McPhetres' Social Issues class—it is not readily accessible, nor is it any more than was contained in the original AG descriptions.

Herewith, then, an attempt to fill in some of the holes. All three proposals are labeled House Legislative Initiatives because they became proposed amendments through the HLI process prescribed in the Constitution. An amendment may also be proposed through popular initiative or through a constitutional initiative.

House Legislative Initiative 16-3 would amend Article III, Section 20 of the CNMI Constitution by adding a new section "c" and reads: "The Legislature shall not increase benefits until all government obligations to the retirement system have been satisfied or the system is fully funded. Provided further that no law shall be enacted by the Legislature that will create an unfunded liability to the retirement system."

According to the text of the initiative, "The purpose of this initiative is to prohibit future benefit increases unless and until: a) the Commonwealth government satisfies its liabilities to the Retirement Fund, or b) the Fund is fully funded. This action is taken in furtherance of providing long term stability to a resource upon which so many families in the CNMI depend."

This means that the legislature cannot pass a law giving more benefits to any retiree unless either all government obligations owed the Retirement Fund have been fully paid, or the added benefits will not incur an unfunded liability—that is, create an obligation the Fund can not meet from its budget at that time.

The AG's office lists as argument against the proposed amendment the "either-or" aspect of the proposal—that only one of those conditions has to be met, but not both. Yet the initiative does state that "no law shall be enacted by the Legislature that will create an unfunded liability to the retirement system," so it's not quite clear what the concern is. The AG statement also notes that the initiative doesn't define what "satisfying government obligations" means, nor does it provide for "what if" situations when benefits may need to be adjusted or increased—neither of which seem all that convincing.

On the other hand, this initiative would appear to prohibit the legislature from awarding additional retirement benefits to government employees without sufficient funding being in place, which, in turn, would protect the Retirement Fund from incurring further unfunded liabilities—both desirable outcomes.

House Legislative Initiative 16-18 would amend Article IX, Section 5(g) of the CNMI Constitution by inserting the bolded provision shown below into existing text, so that the section would read "(g) The corporation shall receive all moneys from the public lands except those from lands in which freehold interest has been transferred to another agency of government pursuant to section 5(b), and shall transfer these moneys after the end of the fiscal year to the Marianas Public Land Trust except that the corporation shall retain the amount necessary to meet reasonable expenses of administration and management, land surveying, homestead development, and any other expenses reasonably necessary for the accomplishment of its functions; provided further that the corporation shall be authorized to expend up to twenty percent of its revenue to pay and satisfy land compensation claims as provided by law. The annual budget of the corporation shall be submitted to the legislature for information purposes only."

According to the "findings" included in the initiative, more than one hundred land compensation claimants are waiting to resolve their claims with the Commonwealth government. Their land has been taken for public purposes such as roads, highways, right of ways, ponding basins, and easements, yet owners have waited decades and not received just compensation. Many have died without ever being compensated. Moreover, several land claims have been settled but not actually paid by the government, because it lacks the funds to do so.

The initiative continues, "...with the new language, the ar-

See HOUSE on Page 14

Governor, Legislature should hang their heads in shame

Let's start with the governor. You helped to create this whole mess. With your excessive hiring, you have to spent money the government did not have just to get re-elected. You have refused to work in good faith with the feds. You are still spending money on your foolish lawsuit. You have made a bad joke of the competitive hiring system. It is no longer the best person that gets the job. It is who voted for you who get the job.

The Legislature is not without blame either. Remember the entire pet project bills hat they passed, citing further revenue as the funding source. Bad move the projected revenue is not there to pay for your mistakes. The first rule of survival is you do not spend what you do not have. You people however just keep on spending and now you want to step on the necks of the workers to pay for your bad habits. You people have one hell of a lot of nerve.

If the people will just think back to the last election they will remember that I pleaded with you to vote with your head and not the old party of family line. Well most of you voted the party or the family line. Stop and look where it has gotten you. For the love of God, please wake up! Vote for the person that is going to work for you not himself or herself or some special group. We have another election coming up in a few days. Please use your heads when you go to vote. I am not going to tell you who to vote for. If you take a good look at the man running, how they live their lives, what they have accomplished for the people of the island. When you meet him between elections does he take the time to talk to you and listen to what you have to say, or is he too important to waste time talking to you? There really is just one choice-He is in the office now.

Okay, how do we get out of this mess? A recall of the governor would be a good start. But the only long-term solution is to change you voting habits. To the people who are talking about running a recall on the governor, when you get your petition ready please give me a call and will be proud to sign it. There are a lot of educated young people that are living in the states, lets get them back out here and get them in office. But make it clear to them that we expect them to work for the good of the island, not themselves.

The next thing to do is to force the legislature to put an initiative on the ballot for an elected AG. The present system is a bad joke. The AG works for the governor. How do you expect him to stand up and tell the governor he is wrong? Not going to happen. Just look at what is going on right now. The AG has hired a lawyer to defend him, using taxpayers' money. Why should they use our money and defend him, when what he did had nothing to do with the operation of his duties? If he was being sued for a decision that he made in the performance of his duties I could maybe see him using taxpayers money for his defense. What the AG did was a pure and simple political act. He should have to pay for his own defense. But the governor authorized him to use our money. I wonder why.

Think about it people. Then stand up and be counted. It is that or just kiss your future and the future of you family goodbye.

Frederick Prosser
As Matuis

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°	▲87° ▼76°

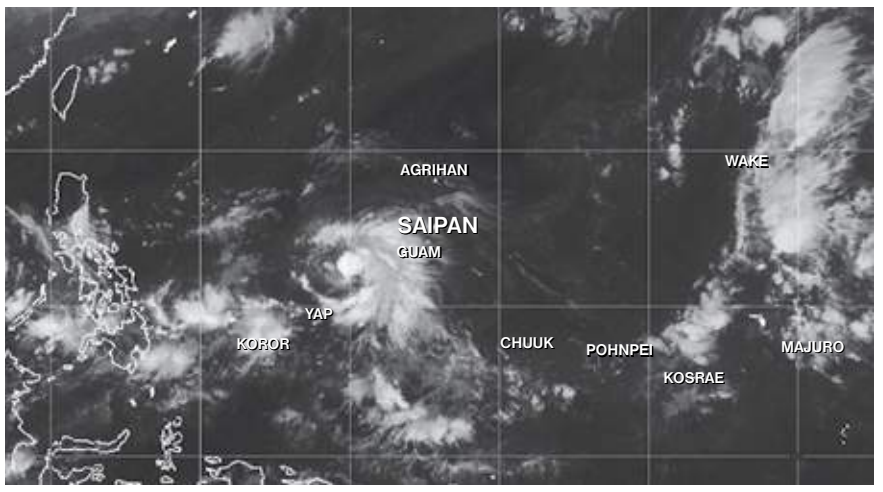
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲86	▼78
Palau	Rain	▲85	▼77
Yap	Rain	▲87	▼78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88	▼75
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼78
Majuro	Rain	▲84	▼77

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲64	▼54
Beijing	Sunny	▲68	▼46
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲83	▼68
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲85	▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲57	▼45
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲81	▼60
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼75
Melbourne	Showers	▲55	▼43
Miami	Showers	▲86	▼67
New York	Showers	▲59	▼47
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	▲74	▼58
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲58	▼47
Pusan	Sunny	▲70	▼55
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲73	▼55
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲63	▼41
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	▲76	▼59
Seoul	Sunny	▲68	▼48
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼64
Washington, DC	Showers	▲68	▼50

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2010

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough extends eastward from the central Philippines through a weak circulation centered northwest of Koror at 13N129E to Tropical Storm Megi (15W) centered northeast of Yap at 12N139E. Megi has maximum sustained winds of 65 mph and is moving west-northwest at 8 mph scattered to numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring near Megi southwest and west of Guam between 7N and 15N from 138E to 145E. For more information on Tropical Storm Megi, see advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM and JTWC bulletins under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW. Convergent southwest winds south of the monsoon trough are producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Koror between 7N and 11N from 130E to 135E. A near-equatorial trough runs from EQ148E to 3N133E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found well south of Guam north of the trough between 1N and 4N from 142E to 148E. A surface trough west of Kosrae and kwajalein runs northeastward from 6N161E to 16N172E. An upper trough runs northward from 8N164E to an upper low centered at 25N164E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with these systems are found within 100 miles of a line east of Pohnpei and north of Kosrae running from 6N162E to 11N165E and from just north of Majuro extending to east of Wake Island between 7N and 25N from 167E to 172E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers northeast of Majuro between 7N and 15N from 172E to east of the dateline.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

7:28 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet
3:17 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
8:46 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.2 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:09 AM	5:57 PM
Saturday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Sunday	6:09 AM	5:56 PM
Monday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM
Tuesday	6:09 AM	5:55 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	12:49 PM	
Saturday	11:03 PM	12:27 AM
Sunday	2:09 PM	1:17 AM
Monday	2:45 PM	2:04 AM
Tuesday	3:20 PM	2:51 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF OCTOBER 13, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

CO9317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
CO9313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
CO9313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
CO9599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
CO9316/893	2:45am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
DL287/173	6:00am	10:55pm	Daily via NRT
CO9603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
CO9599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
CO9603/909	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

CO9316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
CO9596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
CO9596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
CO9602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
CO9604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
CO9606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	3:50pm	8:25pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/173	7:50am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
CO892/9316	4:15pm	3:35am+1	3, 6 via GUM-Palau
PR110/CO596	10:00pm	7:25am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
CO934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
CO910/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

WE DESERVE BETTER.

The Covenant Party tried to privatize CUC but was blocked by the political opposition, which demanded $250 million for a troubled utility.

The Covenant Party knew Federalization was harmful & fought against it but lost. We are now seeing its painful results.

The Covenant Party tried to pass austerity legislation for the past few years, but the political opposition refused to recognize financial reality, and the situation just got worse & worse.

The Covenant Party tried to extend the private land lease term to 75 years, to lure investments and allow private landowners to decide for themselves, but the political opposition blocked it

If we find ourselves in tough times now,
it's not because the Covenant Party didn't try to help.
It's because we have grown too divided.

UNITED WE STAND.
DIVIDED WE FALL.
THE CNMI DESERVES BETTER.

Covenant PARTY
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Department of Interior recommends U.S. Citizenship or permanent residency for long-term guest workers.

The Covenant Party strongly disagrees!

The Covenant Party believes guest workers came into the CNMI to temporarily supplement---not permanently replace---our local workforce.

The founding fathers of the Covenant never contemplated the granting of U.S. Citizenship or permanent residency for long-term guest workers.

Please join the Covenant Party in rejecting the DOI report.

Let the will of the people be heard.

Covenant PARTY
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Paid for by the Covenant Party. Emma S. Villagomez, Treasurer.

GUANGDONG HARDWARE
GUANGDONG MILEI?
GUANGDONG BA ITO?
GOOD NEWS TO ALL TINIAN/ROTA CUSTOMERS:
To order just dial 288-2288, Payment can be made through credit card authorization, or cashier check, postal money order, traveler's check sent thru Freedom Air/ SN-5.
ALL SOUL'S DAY SPECIAL
SEMI-GLOSS INT. & EXT. LATEX $17.50/GAL | $64.99/4.25 GAL
FLAT INT. & EXT. LATEX (PRIMER) $15.50/GAL | $56.50/4.25 GAL
WATERBASE PRIMER $17.00/GAL | $76.99/4.25 GAL
GLOSS WHITE ENAMEL $18.79/GAL
THIN-SET MORTAR $7.80
JOINT COMPOUND $17.00 5 GAL.
WATERCLOSET $86.00 & UP
SINK $33.00 & UP
ALL ELECTRICAL WIRE 30% OFF
ELECTRICAL PIPE 1/2" $1.80 | 3/4" $2.60
NEW ARRIVALS OF CERAMIC TILES 12"*12" $0.79/pc • 8"*12" $0.52/pc
OTHERS
CEMENT $6.75/BAG
DELIVERY CHARGE TO TINIAN-$3.00/BAG
HOLLOW BLOCKS (CMU) 4"-$0.55/pc 6"-$0.65/pc 8"-$0.75/pc
#4 REBAR $750.00/BDL
#3,#5,#7,#8 REBAR $780.00/ST
MADE IN KOREA / MADE IN TAIWAN
25%OFF FOR 2X8 UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR & TREATED
40%OFF FOR OVERSIZED AND DAMAGED MAHOGANY LUMBER
U.S. LUMBER
2X4X20 REGULAR: $7.40
2X4X20 TREATED: $12.00

UTILITY LUMBER REGULAR	UTILITY LUMBER TREATED
2X4X12 - $4.15	2X4X12 - $5.90
2X4X14 - $4.65	2X4X14 - $6.50
2X4X16 - $5.70	2X4X16 - $7.70
2X4X18 - $6.30	2X4X18 - $8.70
2X4X20 - $6.80	2X4X20 - $9.60
2X6X12 - $6.70	2X6X12 - $7.90
2X6X14 - $7.60	2X6X14 - $11.00
2X6X16 - $8.90	2X6X16 - $10.30
2X6X18 - $9.90	2X6X18 - $14.50
2X6X20 - $10.90	2X6X20 - $12.00

5/8" FLYFORM:	$25.90/PC
5/8" PHENOLIC FLYFORM:	$30.90/PC
WIRE MESH 7'*50':	$69.00
WIRE MESH 7'*100':	$117.00

15% TO 50% OFF ALL DAMAGED ITEMS!
CHEAPEST DEALER OF MAJOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIAL ON ISLAND!
Never satisfied until you are
P.O. BOX 501640, SAIPAN, MP 96950
TEL: (670) 288-2288/2289/6688
FAX: 288-4488
E-mail:gddc@pticom.com
Business hours:
Mon. to Sat. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
AMERICAN EXPRESS MasterCard VISA

HOUSE

From Page 11

gument that the Constitution does not expressly allow for payment of judgments cannot be made, because it is the intent of this amendment to allow the Department of Public Lands to do precisely that."

Money from public land leases, etc., now goes to the Marianas Public Land Trust, which invests the money, and deposits the interest earned in the General Fund. Without any figures to indicate how much money the general fund would lose by enacting this initiative, it is difficult to judge whether it should be passed or not, since the consequences are not at all clear. Additionally, the AG's office points out that while the initiative would permit DPL to use 20% of its income for compensating land owners, it does not require DPL to do so, making it unsure as to whether the initiative would even accomplish its intent.

House Legislative Initiative 17-2 would amend Article X of the CNMI Constitution by adding a new section 10, which reads: Upon the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of each house of the Legislature, the Commonwealth may issue pension obligation bonds, the cumulative amount of which shall not exceed the Commonwealth's actuarially determined unfunded accrued liability to the Retirement Fund. The net proceeds of each bond issuance shall be deposited and invested along with other monies in a defined benefit plan trust fund administered by the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund. The bonds issued under this section shall comply with Section 3 of this Article and shall be exempt from Section 4 of this Article.

Article 10, Section 3, states that "Public debt may not be authorized or incurred without the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members in each house of the legislature." The bonds would have to comply with this provision.

Article 10, Section 4, states that "Public indebtedness... may not be authorized in excess of ten percent of the aggregate assessed valuation of the real property within the Commonwealth. Public indebtedness may not be authorized for operating expenses of the Commonwealth government or its political subdivisions." The bonds would NOT have to comply with this provision.

This initiative does not, of itself, require that a bond be issued. It merely gives the Legislature permission to issue one. As the text of the initiative states, "Before any such bonds are actually issued, the Commonwealth additionally must assess their feasibility. The feasibility of the bonds depends upon bond market conditions, prevailing interest rates, and other factors that may change over time."

According to the text of the initiative it is clear that the bond would be issued by the CNMI government, not the Retirement Fund.

A question that has not been addressed in discussion of this proposal is why the government should borrow money (that is, float one or more bonds) to pay off its debt to the Retirement Fund when it would be far simpler to use the money that would go to the bond payments, and instead, to pay it directly to the Retirement Fund? At the very least, the government would save the interest it would have to pay on the money it borrowed. To be sure, the Retirement Fund would not get a lump sum payment as it would if a bond were issued and buyers for it found. But it's not clear that a lump sum payment is essential.

The more frequently asked questions: what are the chances of finding a buyer of the bonds in today's economy, given the CNMI's economic condition? What interest rate would be set? Where would the CNMI get the money to pay off the debt? \Would the RF be able to invest well enough to earn more in interest than the bonds cost?

Both Retirement Fund personnel and the board of the Commonwealth Retirees Association are lobbying heavily for the passage of this initiative. Interestingly enough, this is the only initiative for which the AG did not provide both a "pro" and a "con" statement. Rather, it only spelled out the conditions for obtaining the bond.

It should be noted, moreover, that it would take some time—no estimates are given—to meet all the required procedures— it is not an instant solution to meeting the RF's income needs. Rather than looking to future solutions, the RF might better focus on the on-going efforts to satisfy the court's judgement.

The full text of the three initiatives is available on the Election Commission's web site www.votecnmi.gov.mp. Unfortunately, its version cannot be cut and pasted. Many thanks to Claire Sablan, one of the Legislative Bureau's House Legislative Assistants, for providing me with copies I could cut and paste.

The Commonwealth Election Commission is scheduled to conduct a hearing on the three initiatives on Thursday, Oct. 21, from 5pm to 6:30pm at Northern Marianas College classroom D-1.

My take? Vote "yes" to House Legislative Initiative 16-13, and "no" to both HLI 16-18 and HLI 17-1.

Ruth L. Tighe
Tanapag

Bottom LINE
NISSAN
MODEL YEAR-END SALES EVENT
$196 per paycheck*
$180 per paycheck*
"Highest Ranked Midsize Car in Initial Quality"
The New Nissan Altima
Acclaimed Quality. A Bold New Look.
UP TO 32 MPG**
The Nissan Rogue
A Whole New Crossover.
UP TO 27 MPG**
PATHFINDER MURANO FRONTIER MAXIMA CUBE 370Z
Joeten Motors POWERED BY YOU
SHOWROOM HOURS: MON. – FRI. 8 AM – 6 PM • SAT. 8 AM - 12 NOON • TEL. (670) 234-5562
Vehicle may not be exactly as shown • Some conditions apply • On approved credit • See dealer for details • While Supplies last. **EPA Estimated hwy mpg.
* Nissan Altima total price $24,995 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 9.99% APR for 60 monthly payments of $424.74 or $196 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred price $25,484.40. Nissan Rogue total price $22,995 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 9.99% APR for 60 monthly payments of $390.75 or $180 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year.Total deferred price $23,444.40. Documentation fees and registration not included.

Letter to the Editor

Which agency?

Since 10 years ago the people of the CNMI have been obligated to pay CUC fuel charge. And looking back at this issue, I am concerned why the federal agencies did not research the new cost of living as this issue affects our livelihood in our health and the change in the cost of living. Which of the following agencies do you think we should ask to explain why they fail to acknowledge this issue and make report to Uncle Sam for eligibility income adjustment and what available programs that can help us deal with this issue that is affecting our government and our cost of living? Food stamp, NMC CREES EFNEP, public health wellness programs, or do you have another on the list?

Another issue that is rising is the unemployment rate and the increase in contract workers? Which of the following agencies should we ask for assistance especially through these tough times for our educational needs and trainings? NMC, WIA, OVR, labor, or do you have any other in mind?

Another issue is our health care providers has very minimal services, and we don't have money to hire doctors, which agency should we ask to seek federal assistance for medical referral program for us to be sent or refer to another doctor? Medicaid or is there any other in mind?

Another issue growing is the mass reproduction of pest or bad insects multiplying and are now attacking other plants. I never see them eat before. Which agencies are responsible to help us protect our environment? Environmental Protection, CREES IPM, DLNR or do have any other in mind?

And the biggest is the budget. One person commented on the news that our Department of Commerce and Division of Revenue and Tax need educational assistance and training. Who do you think we can check to help us, on this? NMC or the feds?

People of the CNMI I will sit in meetings or conference for free if you call me and I'll even help make comments, just identify the above for heaven's sake because I am living in fear to let people continue to work and continue to bring us all to our death.

Why are we fighting and pointing fingers at each other when we have all these agencies who were supposed to be working with us to help improve our life.

Winnie Atalig
San Jose, Tinian

30th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
OCTOBER SPECIAL
LUNCH $5 only •BENTO
11:00am-3:00pm
MONDAY
Tempura, Yakitori, Yakisoba, Coco, Salad, Rice, Miso soup
TUESDAY
Fried Chicken, Grilled Saba, Spaghetti, Coco, Salad, Rice, Miso soup
WEDNESDAY
Fried Mahi-Mahi, Yakiniku, Kimchee, Yakisoba, Salad, Rice, Miso soup
THURSDAY
Sashimi, Katsuni (Katsudon style), Spaghetti, Rice, Miso soup
FRIDAY
Tempura, Teriyaki Chicken, Yakisoba, Coco, Rice, Miso soup
SATURDAY
Sashimi, Boneless Fried Chicken, Spaghetti Carbonara, Salad, Rice, Miso soup
DINNER RAFFLE
Try your luck in the after-dinner raffle. For each $10 of purchase, you'll have a chance to win various giveaways.
(LOCAL DISCOUNT APPLIES)
KINPACHI
Japanese Restaurant
Kinpachi Restaurant open daily TEL: 234-6900
Location: across from the Fiesta Resort & Spa

Japanese Society to celebrate 25th anniversary

The Japanese Society of Northern Marianas will mark its 25th founding anniversary with the commemoration of the 25 years since the rebuilding of the Katori Jingu Shrine at Sugar King Park in Garapan.

Yoichi Matsumura, president of Pacific Development Inc., told *Saipan Tribune* that 72 visitors from the Katori Shrine Group from Japan, including the chief priest, will arrive on island and perform a ceremony at the park on Oct. 23 at 10am.

"The 'high priest' and several representatives from the Katori Shrine will visit Saipan to carry out the ceremony on this memorable day," he said.

Matsumura said there will be a rare, traditional Japanese performance called "Gagaku" during the ceremony.

Gagaku, which literally means elegant music, is a kind of Japanese classical music performed for several centuries that consists of three primary repertoires.

Following the memorial ceremony is the Annual Japanese Autumn Festival at the Sugar King Round House and grounds which will be open to the public.

The Annual Japanese Autumn Festival will feature traditional Japanese performances direct from Japan.

Matsumura said 15 members of the Yosakoi Soran group and nine members of the Shamisen group will arrive from Japan on Oct. 22 to participate in the annual festivities.

According to Matsumura, the Yosakoi Soran group will perform a combination of old and modern dance presentations while the Shamisen group will perform Japanese music. Shamisen is a three-stringed traditional Japanese musical instrument.

He said various food stations, game tents, and a bazaar will be set up at the festival grounds.

Matsumura added that the Yosakoi Soran group will also bring Hotate clams from Hokkaido.

Matsumura said this is the 25th year that the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas will host the celebration.

"My heartfelt thanks go out to the CNMI community for making our celebration and existence possible for the past 25 years. We look forward to continue nurturing the cultural exchange and understanding for the community," he said.

Matsumura said the public is encouraged to join the Japanese Society of Northern Marianas and the Katori Jingu Shrine in this memorable commemoration and annual festival.

For more information, contact Matsumura at 322-8785 or 287-8785. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

Van Dam visits Gold's University

Gold's Gym Saipan recently sent its new general manager Jackie Van Dam to Gold's Gym International's Manager Training Convention in Dallas Texas.

This training opportunity provides general managers within the Gold's Gym franchise an opportunity to strengthen their products and services.

"We wanted to get Jackie started on the right foot. Gold's Gym is the premier fitness franchise in the United States, and we are proud to be part of that family. Our goal is to provide a facility that promotes fitness at all levels," said Gold's Gym president Russ Quinn.

Van Dam started working at Gold's Gym in July of this year, and going to Gold's University was the perfect opportunity for her to learn more about what it takes to successfully run a Gold's Gym and make it the best.

"I wanted to learn all I could so that I could introduce new and exciting programs to the residents of the CNMI. My goal is to make Gold's Gym Saipan the best gym on island and provide a place that all its members can be proud of," she said.

While attending the University, Van Dam met with Gold's Gym president Jim Snow and several key corporate managers, who were eager to provide insightful advice and helpful hints to improve the local gym. She also met the current Mr. Lightweight USA champion Tamar El Guindy.

"It was so great to be around like minded people whose goal is to promote health and fitness," said Van Dam.

The weeklong University, which is conducted twice a year, is a boot camp of information. Classes covered various topics including: Personal Training Development, Running Group Exercise Classes, Gym Operations, Referral Programs, and Marketing.

"It's about creating a welcoming environment that encourages individuals to come in and workout, whether by taking one of our great exercise classes, or utilizing the largest variety of free weights in the CNMI. We have it all," said Van Dam.

While in Texas, Van Dam traveled to other Gold's Gyms in the area to see what services and amenities they provide to their members. She was also able to compare the "Stateside" gyms to Gold's Gym Saipan.

"What amazed me was how great our gym is compared to those we saw in the States. Of course their facilities were bigger, but several other general managers were impressed with what we offer, and actually wanted advise on what we were doing here," said Van Dam.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Gold's Gym Saipan general manager Jackie Van Dam at Gold's Gym International's Manager Training Convention in Dallas Texas.

Gold's Gym Saipan, the CNMI's only full service fitness center, offers a large array of classes including: Body Pump, Step Classes, Spin Classes, Yoga, Pilates, Tai Chi, and Dance Classes. Plus they have a highly trained certified personal instructor to help you achieve your health goals.

"Look for some new additions at Gold's Gym. We have added noontime Spin Classes on Mondays. And are looking for ways to improve the facility including new flat screen TV's in the Cardio Area. We've also introduced our new dotFIT Supplement Program that helps members track their nutrition and weight loss progress on line," said Van Dam.

Gold's Gym offers great tasting smoothies, and right now the Smoothie of the Month is: Berry Blast! Come by and see what's new at Gold's Gym Saipan. Located behind the Skateboard Park and across from the Japanese Sugar King Park. Call 234-4000 for more information. ***(PR)***

Special meeting to start discussion on amendments to zoning law

The Saipan Zoning Office plans to hold a special meeting on Oct. 25 as part of its efforts to improve the island's zoning law.

Zoning administrator Douglas Wyatt told *Saipan Tribune* that the agenda for the special meeting involves public hearings on a rezoning application and the discussion on the proposed text amendments on the zoning law.

Wyatt said the Big Boyz Marine Sports filed the rezoning application.

The company filed an application to rezone their location to accommodate their plans to include in their business commercial boat repairs.

At present, Big Boyz Marine Sports is only allowed to repair its own boats.

Wyatt said the other part of the public hearing is intended to begin discussions on the proposed text amendments for the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008.

According to Wyatt, they plan to deal with only a couple of sections of the law for the Oct. 25 meeting.

The zoning administrator is urging the community to participate in this public hearing that will have a significant impact on the island's future in terms of zoning regulations.

"This public hearing is very important. How decisions will be made will begin here," said Wyatt.

The Saipan Zoning Law was first ratified in 1993 but was suspended the following year. The revised law, which was the Saipan Zoning Law of 2008, was implemented in February 2008. ***(Clarissa V. David)***

Occupancy rate at 60% in September 2010

HANMI
HOTEL ASSOCIATION NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands reported 60 percent occupancy among its 13 member hotels for September 2010, a 3-percent decrease from September 2009.

HANMI said 48,227 of 80,580 available room nights were sold in September, compared to 51,974 of 85,250 of available room nights sold over the same period last year. Room rates were nearly unchanged at $87.53 during the month, compared to $86.03 last year.

"Limited air seats from Japan continue to negatively impact arrivals, especially group business travel. On the other hand, both Korea and China continue to perform strongly," said HANMI chair Nick Nishikawa. "What the Northern Marianas needs to receive more visitors is additional flights and especially more overseas promotion to fill those flights. Other beach destinations are investing much more funding than the Northern Marianas in their tourism promotions. We must do the same if we want to see tourism recover, as Guam and Hawaii are now experiencing."

So far this year, hotel occupancy is at an average 64 percent, well below the healthy industry indicator average of 80 percent and only 2 percent higher than last year.

The Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands was established in 1985 as a professional forum for the hospitality industry of the CNMI. ***(PR)***

Spanish era documents available

A large collection of historical documents relating to the Spanish colonial administration of the Mariana Islands is now available in the CNMI thanks to a project recently completed by the NMI Council for the Humanities.

According to the council's executive director, Scott Russell, the project was directed by Spanish historian Dr. Carlos Madrid and funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The Mariana Islands were ruled by Spain from 1565 to 1899. Over the course of more than three centuries, Spanish officials produced thousands of documents reporting on daily life in the islands.

Many of these documents, mostly dating to the 19th century, ended up in the Philippine National Archives in Manila.

Madrid spent nearly three months in the Manila archives carefully examining hundreds of musty document bundles to locate materials relating to the Mariana Islands. Madrid's work at the archives followed up on an initial phase of documents copying undertaken by Dr. Augusto de Viana in 2004.

In all, Madrid identified nearly 40,000 pages of pertinent records which he indexed and photocopied.

To make this collection widely accessible to researchers, the photocopies were microfilmed and digitally scanned.

Russell said that the digital version and the index will be given to schools, libraries other repositories throughout the region and eventually will be made available online. The microfilm, he noted, will be turned over to the Northern Marianas College Archives for long-term curation.

The project is a part of an ongoing Humanities Council initiative to locate, digitize, and make readily accessible primary source materials documenting the history and cultures of the Northern Mariana Islands.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Dr. Carlos Madrid at work in the Philippine National Archives.

Additional information about this and other Council projects to promote the study and preservation of local history is available on the Council's website www.nmihumanities.org. ***(PR)***

Supreme Court affirms Peter's two consecutive one-year prison sentences

The Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision last Tuesday affirming the Superior Court's two consecutive one-year prison sentences on Tarson Peter, one for assault and battery under the criminal code and the second for violating an order for protection under the Domestic Violence Act.

Peter's common law wife had obtained an order for protection against Peter, but roughly one year after she obtained the protection order, Peter attacked and injured her. Peter was subsequently charged with violating the protection order and with assault and battery. The Superior Court found him guilty of both counts. On appeal, Peter argued that the two one-year prison sentences violated the Double Jeopardy Clause of the United States and Commonwealth Constitution.

The Double Jeopardy Clause provides, among others, that a person cannot be punished multiple times for the same offense. Peter argued that the two consecutive prison sentences constituted multiple punishments for the same offense because the order for protection forbid him from assaulting or battering his wife.

The Supreme Court held that a defendant can be punished multiple times for the same conduct in a single court proceeding if the Legislature intended for a single course of conduct to result in multiple sanctions. The Commonwealth's Domestic Violence Act explicitly provides that if a person violates an order for protection through actual or threatened physical violence that the person can be subject to multiple and consecutive prison sentences. The Double Jeopardy Clause does not restrict the Legislature's ability to enact statutes that punish defendant's multiple times. Thus, the Superior Court's order that sentenced Peter to two consecutive one-year terms of imprisonment did not violate either the U.S. or Commonwealth Constitution.

Peter's counsel had also argued during the proceedings that disturbing the peace is a lesser included offense of assault and battery. The Supreme Court, however, reaffirmed its decisions in previous cases, holding that assault and battery and disturbing the peace are separate and distinct offenses. ***(PR)***

CNMI bags $11.9M for phase two of SFSF

For the CNMI's compliance with the Maintenance-of-Effort, the U.S. Department of Education has informed Gov. Benigno R. Fitial that the Commonwealth government has been approved to receive phase two of the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund worth $11,994,405.00.

In a letter dated Sept. 28, 2010, Mr. Joseph Conaty, Director of Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs, informed Gov. Fitial that, "I am pleased to provide the enclosed grant award notification (GAN) for the remainder of your Education Stabilization funds under the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund (SFSF) program. These funds, which supplement the Education Stabilization funds previously awarded to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, are being awarded on the basis of your approved phase two application under the program."

"As you know, as part of the conditions of receiving SFSF funding, you have assured that the

The CNMI will maintain its levels of State support for elementary and secondary education and for public higher education for each of fiscal years 2009, 2010, and 2011 as least at the respective levels of such support for fiscal year 2006. The maintenance-of-effort requirement applies in fiscal years 2010 and 2011 even if all of the SFSF funds are expended prior to those periods. If the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands fails to meet the statutory MOE requirement, it must meet the criterion for an MOE waiver," added Conaty.

Fitial was pleased to receive the remaining fund of the CNMI's Education Stabilization funds pursuant to the SFSF program. "While the Commonwealth continues to address these tough economic times, my administration fully supports such funding opportunities that will continue to benefit the education of the CNMI's students," said Fitial.

The CNMI is poised to take actions to enhance the qualifications and effectiveness of teachers in public elementary and secondary schools; establish a longitudinal data system that includes the elements of the America COMPETES Act; improve the quality of standards and assessments and implement enhanced standards and assessments; modernize, renovate, and repair public educational facilities used primarily for instruction; strengthen the technology infrastructure of public elementary and secondary schools, public institutions of higher education, and governmental agencies, and implement a credible financial management system. ***(PR)***

PACIFIC POWER ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the position of Executive Director of the Pacific Power Association (PPA).

The PPA is an international inter-governmental agency, and a Member of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific (CROP). The PPA's role is to improve the performance of the region's power utilities understanding that good performing power utilities contribute to the economic development of the Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs) and assist with poverty alleviation.

It carries this out through the sharing of each other's expertise, experience and resources in training, secondments, utility information, management, overall functions and other activities of benefit to the members and their PICTs.

The Association comprises an Active Membership of 25 power utilities across the Pacific Islands region and more than fifty-six (56) Allied Members from New Zealand, Australia, USA, Germany, Canada, Japan and the Pacific region who are actively involved in the power industry in the Pacific region

The PPA represents the Pacific islands power sector at international and regional fora, and interacts closely with a wide range of bilateral and multilateral development partners including the European Union, the Asian Development Bank, Australia, New Zealand, and the USA for funding of regional programmes. It also liaises and interacts with Regional bodies such as the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, IUCN, University of the South Pacific and other established regional organizations in areas of mutual interest and cooperation.

The Executive Director manages the affairs of the PPA under the guidelines given in the Memorandum and Articles of Association and as directed by the Board.

The Executive Director is responsible and fully accountable to the Board of Directors comprising the Chief Executives of the member island power utilities, and a representative of the Allied Members.

The PPA Secretariat manages an annual budget of approximately US$500,000 from membership contributions and is supplemented by funds sourced through development partners' support. Some of the key responsibilities involve supervision the Secretariat staff, supervising consultants, project management, directing the Association's regional programmes, managing the Association's funds, maintaining support from the development partners', liaising and coordinating member services and organizing annual meetings and conferences.

The position requires a person professionally qualified electrical engineer recognized by international institutions with at least ten (10) years in power utilities with experience at senior management level for five (5) of those years, preferably within the Pacific Island's region. The position demands skills in forging and maintaining an association with a large and geographically isolated membership, a knowledge and interest of outside support institutions, and strong consensus behind the Association's programme. This requires leadership, managerial skills, diplomacy, and excellent communication and analytical skills. In addition to these skills, the successful candidate must have a good understanding of the whole of the Pacific Islands region and its peoples and cultures.

The position is base at the PPA Secretariat office located in Suva, Fiji, but will require extensive travel throughout the region and external to the region. The appointment carries an attractive remuneration package, payable in US dollars, which will be based on the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant. At present Fiji tax on this salary will be payable under the laws of Fiji. The appointment will be for three years initially, renewable for a further three years on agreement with the Board. The employment contract will be executed under the laws and jurisdiction of the Republic of Fiji.

Further information on the PPA is available by contacting the Deputy Executive Director on his email address at gordonc@ppa.org.fj and by accessing the PPA website at www.ppa.org.fj. Applicants must provide full information on relevant qualifications and experience and should give the names and contact details of at least three (3) referees with whom the applicant has been associated professionally. Applications must be received by no later than Close of Business Tuesday 9 November 2010, Cook Islands Time.

Applications should be addressed to the :

Chairman
Pacific Power Association,
Mr. Apii Timoti
Chief Executive Officer
Te Aponga Uira O Tumu-Te-Varovaro
P.O. Box 112,
Tutakimoa Road,
Avarua, Rarotonga.
COOK ISLANDS.
Tel: (682) 20 054 Fax: (682) 21 944

Applications can be also emailed to the Chairman, PPA at atimoti@electricity.co.ck

GCA congratulates PGFC winners

Grace Christian Academy administration, faculty, staff, and parents wish to congratulate the Primary Grades Forensic Conference winners, as well as all the students who participated in the PGFC held at William S. Reyes Elementary School last Saturday. Oct. 9. We are very proud of each student for their hard work in preparing for this competition.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Grace Christian Academy winners of the Primary Grades Forensic Conference held at William S. Reyes Elementary School last Saturday pose for a group photo.

K-2 DIVISION
Impromptu Speaking A
Alex Christian Achas- 1st Place
Federich Garon- 2nd Place
Clerisse Dacumos- 3rd Place
Impromptu Speaking B
Noah Mesa- 1st Place
Richard Steele- 2nd Place
Amaris Birmingham- 3rd Place
Theresa Schweiger- 4th Place
Luis Jerome Gaspar-5th Place
Readers Forum- A
Matthew Gabriel Ernest- 4th Place
Readers Forum- B
Jessa May Santos- 1st Place
Justin Del Rosario- 2nd Place
Richard Steele- 3rd Place
Readers Forum- MB
Amaris Birmingham- 3rd Place

3-5 DIVISION
Choral Speaking A
SheriJean Dela Cruz- 1st Place
Claudilyn Lacbayo-1st Place
Jasmine Phan-1st Place
Seung Jae Kim-1st Place
Steven Ha-1st Place
Dramatic Interpretation-B
Yasmin Angela Marcelo- 3rd Place
Humorous Interpretation- A
Clark Birmingham- 3rd Place
Humorous Interpretation- B
Robert Hanrey Schorr- 2nd Place
Readers Forum- Masters A
Dianne Doris Arnold - 2nd Place
Readers Forum- Masters B
Yasmin Angela Marcelo- 1st Place
Claudilyn Lacbayo-2nd Place
Readers Forum- B
Riley Anne Buenaventura- 3rd Place
Readers Forum- C
Robert Hanrey Schorr - 1st Place
Brian Camacho- 3rd Place
Matt Jason Moran- 4th Place
Reader's Forum- D
Jasmine Phan- 4th Place
Reader's Forum- E
Arvin Dayao- 3rd Place
SheriJean Dela Cruz- 4th Place
Impromptu Speaking B
Tae Yong Kim - 1st Place
Arvin Dayao- 2nd Place
Matt Jason Moran - 3rd Place
Riley Anne Buenaventura- 4th Place
Impromptu Speaking- C
Dianne Doris Arnold-1st Place
Art Matthew Mamaril- 2nd Place
Joshua Tenorio-4th Place
Clark Birmingham- 3rd Place
TEACHERS/COACHES
Mrs. Miriam Dilse- K-5
Mrs. Leah Garfil-1st Grade
Miss Judy Kim-2nd Grade
Mr. Josh Zwicker-3rd Grade
Mrs. Esther Manzano - 4th Grade
Miss Kelly Dawe- 5th Grade
GCA PGFC Coordinator- Mrs. Esther Manzano
Vice Principal/Guidance Counselor- Mrs. Beth Ann Nunez
Principal- Mrs. Marsha Owens

GCA PGFC VOLUNTEERS
Parent Judges- Mrs. Ana Mendiola, Mr. Michael Ernest, Mr. Mark Birmingham
NFL Student Judges- Darlene Barcelon, Cristine Cristobal, Ashlee Das, Kamille De Leon,
Maria Esmero, Krisvel Eugenio, Jimaela Ham, Brooke Sablan
School Staff Representative- Mr. Wesley Ames
NJFL Student Timer- Michael Jang

SAEF congratulates PGFC, NJFL, Math Court winners

Saipan American Education Foundation School congratulates October winners of Primary Grades Forensic Conference, National Junior Forensic League, and Math Court

The administration, faculty, staff, and parents of SAEF would like to extend their congratulations to the following winners and everyone who participated the NJFL and Math Court competition at William S. Reyes Elementary School held last Oct. 2 and the PGFC competition at Dandan Elementary School last Oct. 9.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Saipan American Education Foundation School participant and winners.

NJFL WINNERS
Dandan Elementary School
Oct. 2, 2010
4th place in Prose –A - Karen Fajardo
5th place in Prose C - Kyle Keisha Villegas
5th place in Duo A - Karen Fajardo and Vickie Abalin

MATH COURT WINNER
Dandan Elementary School
Oct. 2, 2010
2nd place in Algebra,Data, Statistics and Probability - John Joshua Valiente

PGFC WINNERS (K-5)
WSR Elementary School
Oct. 9, 2010
K-2 Division
1st place in Duo B - Jhino Valiente and Li Lumbana
3rd place in Choral Speaking C - Keisha Fajardo, Li Lumbana, Roger Sumpay, and Jhino Valiente
4th place in Reader's Forum C (Novice) - Amy Rayn Soliman
4th place in Choral Speaking C - Mitziko Yema, Amy Rayn Soliman, Vladimir Radge Palma, Dishun Tudela
5th place in Choral Speaking A - Alleena Beyonce Indalecio, Patricia Ann Castillon, Laurence Raevin Abad, Christian Troy Rosimo, Derrick Patrick Sese

3rd-5th Grade Division
1st place in Reader's Forum B (Novice) - Avelyne Alvarez
3rd place in Reader's Forum C (Master's) - Kristine Fajardo
3rd place in Humorous Interpretation - Stephen Seth Alonzo
3rd place in Duo C - Stephen Seth Alonzo and Caleb Alexander Rocher-Light
3rd place in Choral Speaking B - Myka Kassandra Villegas, Maverick Daniel Irang, Dondi Ferrer, Xiao, Xiao Qian, Deidre Rosete
5th place in Choral Speaking C - Keziah Gonzales, Kristine Fajardo, and Avelyne Alvarez
5th place in Impromptu A - Xiao Xiao Qian
5th place in Impromptu C - Caleb Alexander Rocher-Light
5th place in Reader's Forum A (Master's) - Myka Kassandra Villegas
5th place in Duo A - Dondi Ferrer and Maverick Daniel Irang

CONGRESSIONAL NOMINATIONS AVAILABLE NOW
FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND LEARN AT THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMIES
CONGRESSMAN SABLAN CAN NOMINATE STUDENTS FOR THE AIR FORCE AND MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMIES, AND THE MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT.
APPLICANTS MUST BE:
United States citizens
High school graduates
Between the ages of 17 and 23
Unmarried, with no dependents
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS SHOULD HAVE:
A strong academic background
The ability to pass a physical aptitude test
Sound moral character
More information and applications can be found at www.sablan.house.gov, or by calling toll free (877) 446-3465. Applications are due December 15th, 2010.
Paid for with official funds authorized by the U.S. House of Representatives

There's no pizza like Amigo Pizza

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

ADVERTISING Feature

Only a year in the business yet Amigo Pizza continues to attract local customers to visit the only pizza parlor on Saipan that offers pizza with a hint of Korean flavor.

The husband-and-wife tandem of Jae Hoon Chung and Moon Jeong Yum are the formidable force behind the success of this small pizza place next to Naked Fish along Beach Road.

"My husband Hoon cooks the dough and prepares the pizza sauce every day while I oversee our daily operations," said Moon.

Amigo Pizza's very own Combination Pizza.

BETH DEL ROSARIO

BETH DEL ROSARIO

Moon Jeong Yum and Jae Hoon Chung, the Korean couple behind the success of Amigo Pizza.

The affable manager told *Saipan Tribune* what she noticed about the pizza that's available on Saipan when she first arrived on the island about 10 years ago.

"The pizza here was different. Since my husband is a professional pizza cook back in Seoul, I told him that we can start another business and cook very good pizza," she said.

The Korean couple decided to close down their grocery store business and open up Amigo Pizza on Oct. 9, 2009. Since then, Hoon and Moon devoted their time in their new undertaking.

"We offer a new version of pizza here on Saipan and my husband and I are very proud of that," said Moon.

Amigo Pizza provides its customers with freshly made pizza dough on a daily basis and offers an assortment of distinctive pizza flavors that they won't find anywhere else on the island.

BETH DEL ROSARIO

The interior of Amigo Pizza on Beach Road next to Naked Fish. The pizza parlor is celebrating its first anniversary by indulging its customers with a medium one-topping pizza for only $9.99.

Their unique pizza fares include Bulgogi, Chicken Alfredo, and Spicy Shrimp flavors. Some of Amigo's bestsellers are the Barbecue Beef and the Meat Lovers.

"Our customers love our Barbecue Beef Pizza because it's real barbecued beef. Even the bacon we use for pizza topping is also grilled," she disclosed.

Moon also takes pride in providing their customers the kind of pizza that's both flavorsome and nourishing.

"People nowadays are very health conscious. Unlike other pizza, ours is very healthy because it's not oily. We also have vegetables on our toppings to encourage customers to eat healthy," she said.

According to Moon, customers initially flocked to Amigo Pizza because it was a new pizza place. "People are always curious whenever a new store opens up," she said.

But after trying out their pizza, these curious souls have kept coming back and have become their regulars.

"We're happy because we have regular customers and we still get new customers who tell us 'I heard your pizza is good'," said Moon.

As Amigo Pizza celebrates its first anniversary, fans and new customers have something to sing about.

Customers can purchase a medium one-topping pizza for only $9.99 as part of Amigo's anniversary promotion.

Two medium two-topping pizzas cost only $20.99.

For those who are riding solo, an 8-inch small pizza with two toppings costs only $6.99.

Big groups of families and friends can enjoy two large one-topping pizzas for only $23.99 while two large two-topping pizzas are priced at $25.99.

Amigo Pizza also delivers orders at a minimal delivery charge of $2.50.

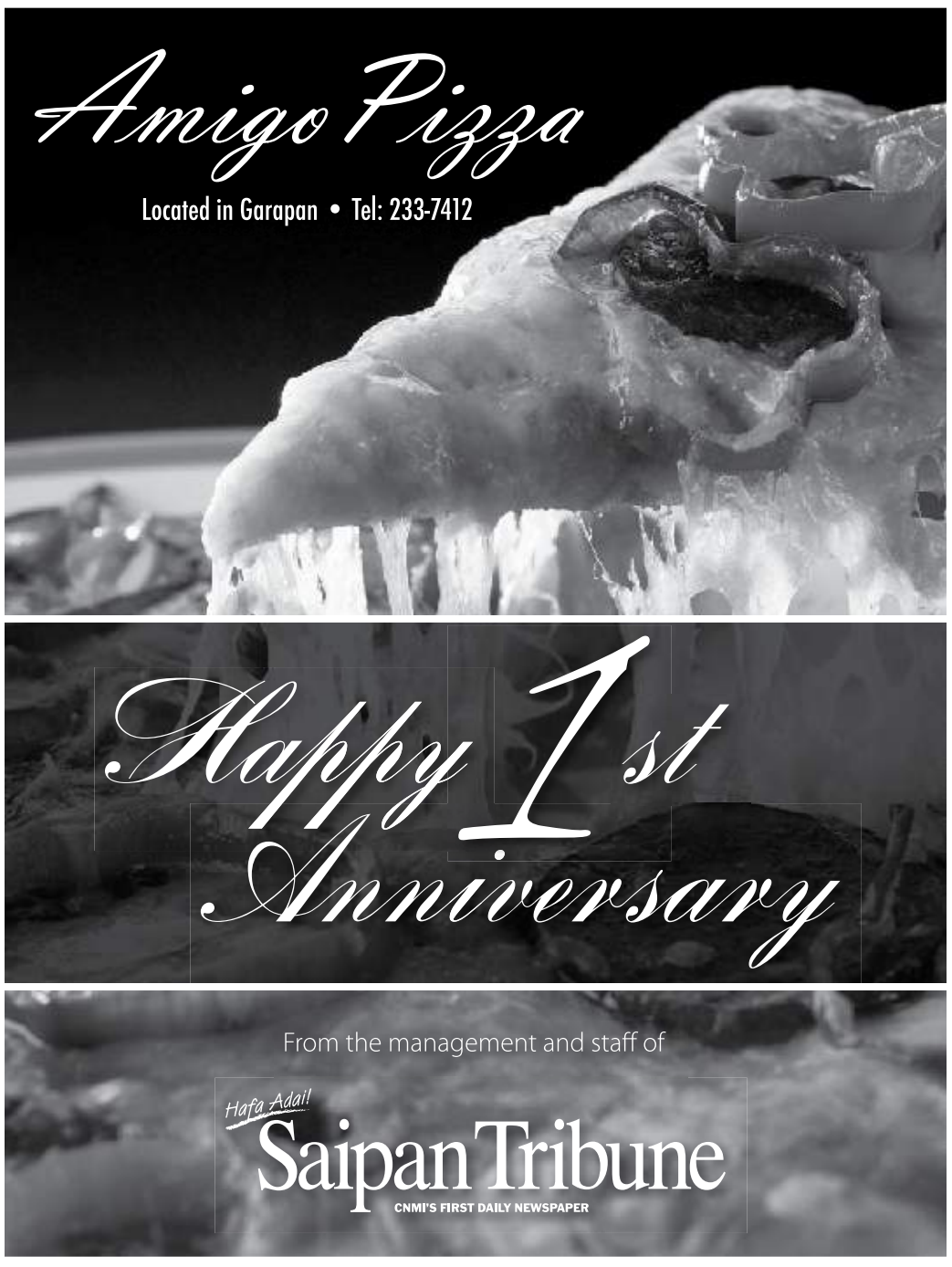
Moon expressed appreciation to all their customers who have helped them in their first year in the business.

She encouraged all those who haven't sampled their unique pizza to go and give it a try and guarantees them that they will keep coming back for more.

"When we make our pizza, we will always make it fresh and healthy for our customers," she assured.

Amigo Pizza is open from 10am to 10pm Monday to Saturday, and 1pm to 10pm on Sunday.

Visit them on Beach Road next to Naked Fish or call 670-233-PIZA (7412) for orders and more information.



1st Anniversary
PROMOTION
$9.99
1 Topping
Medium Pizza
Great Pizza...Low Price...
Amigo Pizza
Located in Garapan • Tel: 233-7412
MEDIUM PIZZA
One Topping
1 box - $ 9.99
2 boxes - $ 19.99
4 boxes - $ 37.99
Two Toppings
2 boxes - $ 20.99
4 boxes - $ 39.99
LARGE PIZZA
One Topping
2 boxes - $ 23.99
4 boxes - $ 45.99
6 boxes - $ 64.99
10 boxes - $ 104.99
Two Toppings
2 boxes - $ 25.99
4 boxes - $ 49.99
6 boxes - $ 69.99
10 boxes - $ 109.99
$6.99 (8 inches - 2 toppings pizza)
BBQ Pizza
BBQ Beef, Pepperonie, Mushroom, Green & Red Pepper, Onion
Meat Lovers Pizza
Beef, Hot Link Sausage, Pepperoni, Bacon, Ham, Sliced Garlic, Onion
Combination Pizza
Bulgogi Beef, Pepperoni, Ham, Mushroom, Green & Red Peeper, Onion, Olive
Super Supreme Pizza
Beef, Pepperoni, Ham, Mushroom, Green & Red Pepper, Onio, Corn
Vegetables Pizza
Broccoli, Corn, Mushroom, Plive, Green & Red Pepper, Onion
Medium $ 16.99 + 1 Coupon (2nd - $ 11.99)
Large $ 19.99 + 1 Coupon + 1 Free Coke 1.25l) (2nd - $ 13.99)
*Collect 10 coupons to get FREE PIZZA.

Business

Dozens charged with largest Medicare scam ever

NEW YORK (AP)—A vast network of Armenian gangsters and their associates used phantom health care clinics and other means to try to cheat Medicare out of $163 million, the largest fraud by one criminal enterprise in the program's history, U.S. authorities said Wednesday.

Federal prosecutors in New York and elsewhere charged 73 people. Most of the defendants were captured during raids Wednesday morning in New York City and Los Angeles, but there also were arrests in New Mexico, Georgia and Ohio.

The scheme's scope and sophistication "puts the traditional Mafia to shame," U.S. Attorney Preet Bharara said at a Manhattan news conference. "They ran a veritable fraud franchise."

Unlike other cases involving crooked medical clinics bribing people to sign up for unneeded treatments, the operation was "completely notional," Janice Fedarcyk, head of the FBI's New York office, said in a statement. "The whole doctor-patient interaction was a mirage."

The operation was under the protection of an Armenian crime boss, known in the former Soviet Union as a "vor," prosecutors said. The reputed boss, Armen Kazarian, was in custody in Los Angeles.

Bharara said it was the first time a vor—"the rough equivalent of a traditional godfather"—had been charged in a U.S. racketeering case.

Kazarian, 46, of Glendale, Calif., and two alleged ringleaders—Davit Mirzoyan, 34, also of Glendale, and Robert Terdjanian, 35, of Brooklyn—were named in an indictment charging racketeering conspiracy, bank fraud, money laundering and identity theft.

The indictment accused Terdjanian and others of hatching other schemes involving stolen credit cards, untaxed cigarettes and counterfeit Viagra. It also alleges that during a meeting last year at a Brighton Beach restaurant, Terdjanian pulled a knife on someone who owed him money "and threatened to disembowel the individual if the debt was not paid."

A judge jailed Terdjanian without bail on Wednesday at a brief hearing. Afterward, his attorney said his client denies the charges.

Kazarian and Mirzoyan were scheduled to appear in court Wednesday in Los Angeles.

Authorities began the New York-based investigation after information on 2,900 Medicare patients in upstate New York—including Social Security numbers and dates of birth—were reported stolen.

The defendants in the New York case also had stolen the identities of doctors and set up 118 phantom clinics in 25 states, authorities said. The names were used to submit fake bills for care that was never given, they said.

Some of the phony paperwork was a giveaway: It showed eye doctors doing bladder tests; ear, nose and throat specialists performing pregnancy ultrasounds; obstetricians testing for skin allergies; and dermatologists billing for heart exams.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Watchdog: Treasury outsourced most bailout work

WASHINGTON (AP)—The bailed-out mortgage companies hired by the Treasury Department to manage its main program designed to prevent foreclosures probably weren't up to the job, and tapping them may have increased taxpayer losses, a new watchdog report says. Failed mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac relied heavily on subcontractors to manage a program aimed at lowering borrowers' monthly payments, according to a report Thursday from the Congressional Oversight Panel monitoring the $700 billion financial bailout. The job probably detracted from their efforts to right themselves financially and minimize the size of their bailouts, which total $148 billion and are likely to grow, the report says.

Dollar hits fresh 15-year-low against yen

TOKYO (AP)—The dollar hit a fresh 15-year-low against the yen in Tokyo Thursday amid growing speculation that the Federal Reserve will ease monetary policy next month. The U.S. currency was quoted at 81.23 yen at one point in early Thursday trading in Tokyo. The dollar has been under pressure as investors bet that the U.S. Federal Reserve will enact a bond-buying program in early November. Buying bonds would drive interest rates and yields even lower, and tends to encourage dollar-selling.

New scanner aims to make liquids on planes safer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—The latest airport security technology being developed at Los Alamos National Laboratory could open the door for airline passengers to bring their soft drinks and full-size shampoo bottles on board again. Homeland security officials put the latest generation of the bottled liquid scanner to the test Wednesday during a demonstration at Albuquerque's international airport. Everything from bottled water and champagne to shampoo and pink liquid laxatives were scanned to make sure explosives weren't hiding inside.

Banks seize 288K homes in Q3, but challenges await

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lenders seized more U.S. homes this summer than in any three-month stretch since the housing market began to bust in 2006. But many of the foreclosures may be challenged in court later because of allegations that banks evicted people without reading the documents. A total of 288,345 properties were lost to foreclosure in the July-September quarter, according to data released Thursday by RealtyTrac Inc., a foreclosure listing service. That's up from nearly 270,000 in the second quarter, the previous high point in the firm's records dating back to 2005.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Friday, October 15, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor of the Captain George Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes (August 31, 2010)

II. SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS
1. Seaport and Tinian Boats
2. For reconsideration: TDHC's request for Tinian Shipping's Accounts Receivables
3. Insurance Specifications for 2011
4. Port of Saipan Generator Change Order #3
5. SIA Generator Change Order #4
6. Amendment: TIA Terminal Improvements A&E Service
7. Personnel Matter: Employment Contracts
8. Pacific Airport Services' request for space at the SIA
9. SIA Runway Rehabilitation Package II Phase I – Change Order No. 13
10. SIA Runway Rehabilitation Package II Phase I – Change Order No. 14
11. Supplemental Budget Request: Security Access System Surveillance Cameras
12. Adoption of the 2009 Audit
13. Ginen Saipan

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI
Chairman, Board of Directors
October 15, 2010

Nation

Obama considers fast appeal of gays-military order

WASHINGTON (AP)—Defense Secretary Robert Gates warned Wednesday of "enormous consequences" for men and women in uniform if a judge's order abruptly allowing gays to serve openly in the military is allowed to stand.

The Obama administration may well ask for a stay of the ruling while it appeals. Justice Department officials worked behind the scenes on their response into Wednesday night with no word on when there would be an announcement. The uncertainty of the next step left gay-rights activists as well as the military in limbo over the status of the "don't ask, don't tell" law.

A day after a federal judge in California ordered the Pentagon to cease enforcing the law, Gates told reporters traveling with him in Europe that repeal should be a question for Congress—and only after the Pentagon completes a study of the impact of lifting the ban, which is due Dec. 1.

Obama

Allowing gays to serve openly "is an action that requires careful preparation and a lot of training," Gates said. "It has enormous consequences for our troops."

In Tuesday's ruling, U.S. District Judge Virginia Phillips ordered the military "immediately to suspend and discontinue any investigation" or other proceeding to dismiss gay service members. The 1993 law says gays may serve in the military but only if they keep secret their sexual orientation.

Phillips wrote that the law "infringes the fundamental rights" of current and prospective service members.

Gay rights advocates cautioned gay service members to avoid revealing their sexuality for fear that the Phillips ruling could be tossed out on appeal and they would be left open to being discharged.

Defense Department officials would not say what was happening to current discharge cases, or even confirm how many pending cases there might be. A Pentagon spokesman, Col. David Lapan, said no written guidance had been issued to commanders on how to deal with the court order.

An Air Force officer and co-founder of a gay service member support group called OutServe said Wednesday he will continue using a pseudonym out of concern that he could still be discharged.

"Can I come out right now and be OK? And if I made a statement would it be held against me?" asked the officer, who calls himself JD Smith and said he is an Air Force Academy graduate. He said service members are hoping the Pentagon will clarify the meaning of the court ruling.

Warren Arbury of Savannah, Ga., said he'd love to re-enlist in the Army two years after being discharged in the middle of a tour in Iraq. But he's being cautious and patient.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police arrest man tied to false Texas conviction

DALLAS (AP)—Police on Wednesday arrested a convicted child molester whose fingerprint was found at the scene of the 1990 sexual assault of a 5-year-old girl—a crime for which a deaf man was wrongly convicted. Police and investigators from the Dallas County District Attorney's office took Robert Warterfield into custody as a suspect in a different sexual assault of a child. The DA's office said in a statement that its forensics lab confirmed a DNA match between Warterfield and evidence left at the scene of an unsolved 1989 sexual assault of a 9-year-old Dallas girl. Warterfield will be charged with aggravated sexual assault of a child, said Jamille Bradfield, a spokeswoman for DA Craig Watkins.

Police search wooded lot for NC girl presumed dead

HICKORY, N.C. (AP)—Investigators used a police dog to search among tree-trimming equipment and piles of mulch for a missing 10-year-old North Carolina girl on Wednesday, a day after authorities said they believed the girl had been killed. Hours earlier, Zahra Clare Baker's stepmother showed no emotion in court as a judge explained she could be sentenced to up to 30 months in prison if convicted of obstruction of justice. Elisa Baker is accused of trying to throw off investigators with a fake ransom note. The girl, who used hearing aids and a prosthetic leg because of bone cancer, was reported missing over the weekend, but police have indicated they don't believe her father and stepmother's story.

NY pair who sex trafficked charged in baby's death

NEW YORK (AP)—A New York City couple who pleaded guilty to federal sex trafficking charges are facing new charges in a baby's death. Brooklyn District Attorney Charles Hynes said Wednesday that Domingo Salazar and his wife, Norma Mendez, were indicted on charges including manslaughter and criminally negligent homicide. The charges stem from the 2008 death of 3-month-old Carlos Santillana. Prosecutors say the couple failed to get the boy medical help after he was beaten. The boy was Salazar's son with a teenage Mexican girl.

Dems swoop in to help Reid as ad spending spikes

WASHINGTON (AP)—Eager to protect their politically vulnerable Senate leader, Democrats plan to sink more than $2 million into Harry Reid's home state of Nevada in the final weeks of the campaign, but have begun scaling back in Missouri where polls show their candidate trailing.

The adjustments, described by officials from both parties, come as Republican-leaning outside groups maintain a drumbeat of advertising in both states as well as in other key battlegrounds.

In the contest for control of the House, Republican-allied groups are planning a $50 million advertising drive, an extraordinary surge of spending aimed at keeping Democrats on the defensive.

Reid is trying overcome a strong re-election challenge from tea party-backed Republican Sharron Angle, who reported raising $14 million in the last three months. And the committee charged with electing Senate Democrats has reserved airtime to help Reid withstand a barrage of negative advertising from GOP-aligned groups, according to the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they do not discuss strategy publicly.

Democrats also are spending considerably less than they had planned in Missouri this week, where Democrat Robin Carnahan is struggling in her race again Republican Rep. Roy Blunt. Democrats have cut airtime reservations for the state in the next two weeks, too, but they still could decide to run ads during that period.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
COMMONWEALTH ELECTION COMMISSION

Early Voting & Polling Place Designation Announcement

This is to inform all CNMI Voters that pursuant to Public Law 17-11, the 2010 General Election Early Voting period for the 1st Senatorial District of Rota, the 2nd Senatorial District of Tinian and the 3rd Senatorial District of Saipan will commence on Friday, October 22nd, 2010 and end on Monday, November 1st, 2010. The polling places for all 3 senatorial districts will open at 8:00 a.m. and close at 4:00 p.m. each day, inclusive of weekends. The polling places for the Early Voting period are as follows:

1st Senatorial District – Rota	Rota DPS, Songsong Village
2nd Senatorial District – Tinian	Tinian DPS, San Jose Tinian
3rd Senatorial District – Saipan	Commonwealth Election Commission (CEC) Office, Susupe

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 6105 (c), the CEC hereby announces the designated polling places for the upcoming November 2nd, 2010 General Election. The polling places for the general election will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m. on the same day. The polling places are as follows:

Election District	Polling Place
Precinct 1A (San Antonio Area)	Hopwood Junior High School (Football field entrance)
Precinct 1B (San Vicente/Dandan Area)	Dandan Elementary School (Dandan baseball/softball field entrance)
Precinct 1C (Koblerville Area)	Koblerville Youth Center (Adjacent DPS Substation)
Precinct 2 (Chalan Kanoa/Susupe Area)	Joeten/Kiyu Public Library
Precinct 3A (Oleai/Chalan Laulau Area)	Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium
Precinct 3B (Garapan Area)	Garapan Elementary School Cafeteria (North entrance)
Precinct 4A (Tanapag Area)	Tanapag Elementary Cafeteria
Precinct 4B (San Roque Area)	San Roque Elementary School
Precinct 4C(Capitol Hill Area)	Jesus P. Mafnas Legislative Building
Precinct 4D (Northern Islands)	Northern Islands
Precinct 5 (Kagman Area)	Kagman Youth Center
Precinct 6 (Tinian)	Tinian Elementary School Cafeterial
Precinct 7 (Rota)	NMC Campus-Rota

As mandated by Public Law 17-16, voters must ensure that they bring with them a pictured ID as they will be required to present it in order to be issued a ballot at the polls. For more information, please contact the Commonwealth Election Commission at 664-8683(VOTE).

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

ADDENDUM NO. 1
10-12-10
ITB10-GOV-167
PSS Fire Alarm/School Bell System – Various Schools

The previously advertised notice, Invitation To Bids ("ITB") for the **"PSS Fire Alarm/School Bell System – Various Schools"** has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend when bids are due when bids will open.

Amendment shall read:

*Bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., Friday (ChST), October 29, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., Friday (ChST), October 29, 2010, in order to receive this additional seven (7) days and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **October 29, 2010** and must be received no later than **November 08, 2010 (ChST)**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.*

*Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at **10:00 a.m., Tuesday (ChST), November 09, 2010**. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m., Friday (ChST), October 29, 2010.*

All other elements of the ITB remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Office of Capital Improvement, Capitol Hill, Saipan, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Project Coordinator at 664-2371 or by fax at 664-2408. Questions are due no later than close of business day October 19, 2010.

Asia

SKorea kicks off naval maneuvers with US, Japan

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea kicked off naval drills Thursday with the U.S., Australia and Japan aimed at intercepting illicit weapon shipments in a U.S.-led program targeting nations such as North Korea and likely to draw its anger.

The one-day maneuvers are South Korea's first active participation in the Proliferation Security Initiative, aimed at detering trade in weapons of mass destruction and missiles by states including North Korea and Iran.

North Korea has long warned it would consider Seoul's participation in the program as a declaration of war against the North. The North usually makes such belligerent warnings when Seoul holds joint military drills with the U.S., which Pyongyang sees a rehearsal for invasion. Still, the North's state media has so far remained silent on the joint naval drills with the U.S., Japan and Australia.

The maneuvers Thursday included 10 vessels and several helicopters in international waters between South Korea and Japan, Seoul's Defense Ministry said. They came a day after Seoul hosted a seminar among 15 participating nations in the southeastern city of Busan, the ministry said. It did not elaborate.

The program has been joined by more than 90 nations since it began in 2003. Seoul said last year it was joining the maritime web after the North conducted its second atomic test.

The drills also come amid lingering tension on the divided Korean peninsula following the March deadly sinking of a South Korean warship blamed on Pyongyang.

In May, a multinational investigation led by Seoul concluded that a torpedo fired from a North Korean submarine sank the 1,200-ton warship. North Korea has denied involvement in the sinking that killed 46 South Korean sailors.

The sinking has dimmed the prospects for resuming the stalled international talks aimed at dismantling North Korea's nuclear programs. North Korea quit the talks last year, but it has expressed willingness to rejoin the talks, which include the U.S., South Korea, China, Japan and Russia.

Seoul and Washington have said the North must first take specific moves to demonstrate its sincerity.

In Beijing, Chinese nuclear envoy Wu Dawei told reporters Tuesday after his meeting with North Korea's First Vice Foreign Minister Kim Kye Gwan that Pyongyang appeared to have positive stance in resuming the nuclear talks, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported Wednesday.

Kim, who served as the North's top nuclear envoy, was promoted last month from vice foreign minister.

The trip comes two weeks after North Korean leader Kim Jong Il promoted his youngest son, Kim Jong Un, to four-star general and gave him key political posts aimed at an eventual succession in what would became the country's second hereditary power transition.

ASIAN BRIEFS

HK upset by no charges over Manila hijack deaths

HONG KONG (AP)—Hong Kong said Tuesday it is disappointed by the Philippine leader's decision to spare top officials from criminal prosecution over the botched attempt to resolve a bus hijacking in Manila in which eight Hong Kongers died. Philippines President Benigno Aquino III said Monday the police chief, mayor and five other officials instead would face administrative actions, with possible sanctions including dismissal. "The people of Hong Kong, especially the survivors and the victims' families, will find this hard to accept. The Hong Kong government is also disappointed," the government said in a statement late Tuesday. The Aug. 23 hijacking by a former police officer seeking reinstatement lasted 11 tense hours before the gunman opened fire on his hostages. A police SWAT team then took out the hostage-taker, but not before eight tourists were killed.

5 bodies found as plane slams into Afghan mountain

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Five charred bodies were recovered Wednesday from the wreckage of a cargo plane carrying NATO supplies that slammed into a mountaintop east of Afghanistan's capital with eight people aboard. Searchers scoured the blackened site high up the mountainside for three other crew members missing and feared dead, said police Gen. Zulmayi Horya Khail. The plane went down east of Kabul shortly after taking off Tuesday evening from Bagram Air Field, the main U.S. military base in Afghanistan. The cause of the crash wasn't immediately known. Weather conditions were clear at the time.

Suspected US missiles strikes kill 11 in Pakistan

DERA ISMAIL KHAN, Pakistan (AP)—Suspected U.S. unmanned aircraft launched four missile strikes at a house and two vehicles in northwestern Pakistan near the Afghan border Wednesday evening, killing 11 militants, including three foreigners, said intelligence officials. The attacks occurred within about an hour in the Datta Khel area of North Waziristan, part of Pakistan's semi-autonomous tribal region that is dominated by militant groups that often attack U.S. and other foreign troops in Afghanistan.

Official: Estimated flood damage to Pakistan $9.5B

ISLAMABAD (AP)—International lenders are estimating that this summer's floods caused $9.5 billion in damage to Pakistan's infrastructure, agriculture and other sectors, a government official said Wednesday.

The estimate, drafted by the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank in consultation with Pakistani leaders, underscores the financial challenges facing Pakistan, a U.S.-allied nation that is battling an Islamist insurgency and was relying on international loans before the deluge.

Although other nations, including the U.S., have contributed millions to the relief effort, they have warned Pakistan that they cannot foot the entire recovery and reconstruction bill, which some have estimated could surpass $40 billion. U.S. officials, in particular, have urged Pakistan to improve its anemic tax collection to aid its long-term rebuilding.

The $9.5 billion figure refers only to existing values of roads, buildings, irrigation systems and other devastated sectors that were evaluated nationwide, not what it will cost to replace them, said the government official familiar with the report.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director
3rd Floor, Joeten Commercial Building • P.O. Box 501220 CK, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CUC-RFP-11-005

LEASE OF OFFICE SPACE

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individuals or firms for the lease of office space for its a Administrative and Operation in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The specification may be picked-up at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-11-005, Lease of Office Space"** to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM, (CST) local time on **November 05, 2010**. Late submission will not be considered.

The proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning requirements.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquires must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CST) local time on November 01, 2010 to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement and Supply Manager via email msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Charles Warren, Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective Offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

/s/ **ABE U. MALAE**
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BID
CUC-IFB-11-001

ADDENDUM NO. 3
October 13, 2010

Supply and Delivery of Facility Spill Response and Support Equipment: Power Plant No.1, Saipan

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following amendments to CUC-IFB-11-001:

BID CLOSING DATE:

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-001, Supply and Delivery of Facility Spill Response and Support Equipment: Power Plant No.1, Saipan", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room 4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **October 26, 2010 at 10:00 AM, (CST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the complete Bid shall also be sent by email or through compact disks (CD/DVD), to reach the office of procurement at the same time of the bid closing. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

QUESTIONS/CLARIFICATIONS:

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (CST) local time on **October 18, 2010** to Mr. Mannny B. Sablan, Jr., Procurement and Supply Manager, CUC P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950 via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. William Sword, Technical Manager for Oil, Power Generation - sword.william@gmail.com; Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Managing Engineer, Power Generation venu@cucgov.net; and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

/s/ ABE U. MALAE
Acting Executive Director

World

They're all out: 33 miners raised safely in Chile

SAN JOSE MINE, Chile (AP)—The longest underground nightmare in history ended safely - and faster than anyone expected.

In a flawless operation that unfolded before a hopeful, transfixed world, 33 miners who were trapped for more than two months deep beneath the Chilean earth were raised one by one Wednesday through a smooth-walled shaft of rock.

The last man out was the one who held the group together when they were feared lost, a shift foreman named Luis Urzua who enforced tight rations of their limited food and supplies before help could arrive.

"We have done what the entire world was waiting for," he said immediately after his rescue. "We had strength, we had spirit, we wanted to fight, we wanted to fight for our families, and that was the greatest thing."

Not even a full 24 hours after the rescue began, Urzua made the 2,041-foot ascent in a rescue capsule called Phoenix and emerged from a manhole-sized opening in the ground to a joyous celebration of confetti, balloons and champagne.

President Sebastian Pinera told him: "You are not the same, and the country is not the same after this. You were an inspiration. Go hug your wife and your daughter." With hardhats held to their hearts, the pair led a joyous crowd in singing the national anthem.

The first rescue worker down was last up—Manuel Gonzalez, a mine rescue expert with Chile's state-owned Codelco copper company, talked the men through the final hours inside the mine. Then, he spent 26 minutes alone down below before he strapped himself into the capsule for the ride up. He reached the surface at 12:32 a.m. Thursday local time to hugs from his comrades and Pinera.

The rescue exceeded expectations every step of the way. Officials first said it might be four months before they could get the men out; it turned out to be 69 days and about 8 hours.

Once the escape tunnel was finished, they estimated it would take 36 to 48 hours to get all the miners to the surface. That got faster as the operation went along, and all the miners were safely above ground in 22 hours, 37 minutes.

The crowd in "Camp Hope," down a hill from the escape shaft, set off confetti, released balloons and sprayed champagne as Urzua's capsule surfaced, joining in a rousing miners' cheer. In the capital of Santiago, hundreds gathered in Plaza Italia, waving flags and chanting victory slogans in the miners' honor.

In nearby Copiapo, about 3,000 people gathered in the town square, where a huge screen broadcast live footage of the rescue. The exuberant crowd waved Chilean flags of all sizes and blew on red vuvuzelas as cars drove around the plaza honking their horns, their drivers yelling, "Long live Chile!"

"The miners are our heroes," said teary-eyed Copiapo resident Maria Guzman, 45.

One by one throughout the day, the men had emerged to the cheers of exuberant Chileans and before the eyes of a transfixed globe. While the operation picked up speed as the day went on, each miner was greeted with the same boisterous applause from rescuers.

"Welcome to life," Pinera told Victor Segovia, the 15th miner out. On a day of superlatives, it seemed no overstatement.

They rejoined a world intensely curious about their ordeal, and certain to offer fame and jobs. Previously unimaginable riches awaited men who had risked their lives going into the unstable gold and copper mine for about $1,600 a month.

AP

The last rescued miner, Luis Urzua, center wearing green, hugs Chile's President Sebastian Pinera after being rescued from the collapsed San Jose gold and copper mine where he had been trapped with 32 other miners for over two months near Copiapo, Chile, Wednesday Oct. 13, 2010.

The miners made the smooth ascent inside the Phoenix capsule - 13 feet tall, barely wider than their shoulders and painted in the white, blue and red of the Chilean flag. It had a door that stuck occasionally, and some wheels had to be replaced, but it worked exactly as planned.

Beginning at midnight Tuesday, and sometimes as quickly as every 25 minutes, the pod was lowered the nearly half-mile to where 700,000 tons of rock collapsed Aug. 5 and entombed the men.

Then, after a quick pep talk from rescue workers who had descended into the mine, a miner would climb in, make the journey upward and emerge from a manhole into blinding light.

The rescue was planned with extreme care. The miners were monitored by video on the way up for any sign of panic. They had oxygen masks, dark glasses to protect their eyes and sweaters for the jarring transition from subterranean swelter to chilly desert air.

As they neared the surface, a camera attached to the top of the capsule showed a brilliant white piercing the darkness not unlike what accident survivors describe when they have near-death experiences.

The miners emerged looking healthier than many had expected and even clean-shaven. Several thrust their fists upward like prizefighters, and Mario Sepulveda, the second to taste freedom, bounded out and led his rescuers in a rousing cheer. Franklin Lobos, who played for the Chilean national soccer team in the 1980s, briefly bounced a ball on his foot and knee.

"We have prayed to San Lorenzo, the patron saint of miners, and to many other saints so that my brothers Florencio and Renan would come out of the mine all right. It is as if they had been born again," said Priscila Avalos. One of her brothers was the first miner rescued, and the other came out Wednesday evening.

Health Minister Jaime Manalich said some of the miners probably will be able to leave the hospital Thursday—earlier than projected—but many had been unable to sleep, wanted to talk with families and were anxious. One was treated for pneumonia, and two needed dental work.

"They are not ready to have a moment's rest until the last of their colleagues is out," he said.

As it traveled down and up, down and up, the rescue capsule was not rotating as much inside the escape shaft as officials expected, allowing for faster trips.

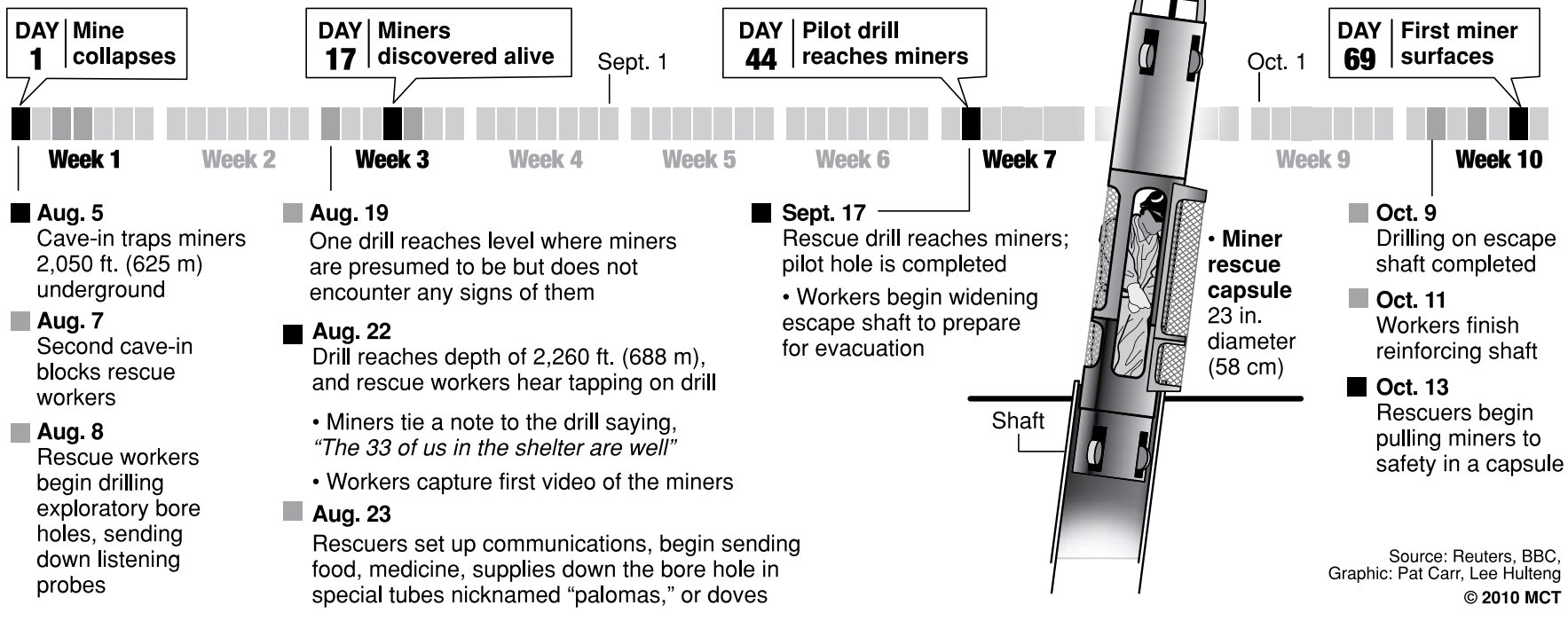
The first man out was Florencio Avalos, who emerged from the missile-like chamber and hugged his sobbing 7-year-old son, his wife and the Chilean president.

No one in recorded history has survived as long trapped underground. For the first 17 days, no one even knew whether they were alive. In the weeks that followed, the world was captivated by their endurance and unity.

News channels from North America to Europe and the Middle East carried live coverage of the rescue. Pope Benedict XVI said in Spanish that he "continues with hope to entrust to God's goodness" the fate of the men. Iran's state English-language Press TV followed events live for a time. Crews from Russia, Japan and North Korean state TV were at the mine.

Disaster and deliverance

Key events in the ordeal of 33 miners who were trapped in part of the San Jose copper and gold mine in near Copiapo, Chile, for 69 days:


DAY 1 Mine collapses
DAY 17 Miners discovered alive
Sept. 1
DAY 44 Pilot drill reaches miners
Oct. 1
DAY 69 First miner surfaces
Week 1
Week 2
Week 3
Week 4
Week 5
Week 6
Week 7
Week 9
Week 10
Aug. 5
Cave-in traps miners 2,050 ft. (625 m) underground
Aug. 7
Second cave-in blocks rescue workers
Aug. 8
Rescue workers begin drilling exploratory bore holes, sending down listening probes
Aug. 19
One drill reaches level where miners are presumed to be but does not encounter any signs of them
Aug. 22
Drill reaches depth of 2,260 ft. (688 m), and rescue workers hear tapping on drill
• Miners tie a note to the drill saying, "The 33 of us in the shelter are well"
• Workers capture first video of the miners
Aug. 23
Rescuers set up communications, begin sending food, medicine, supplies down the bore hole in special tubes nicknamed "palomas," or doves
Sept. 17
Rescue drill reaches miners; pilot hole is completed
• Workers begin widening escape shaft to prepare for evacuation
• Miner rescue capsule 23 in. diameter (58 cm)
Shaft
Oct. 9
Drilling on escape shaft completed
Oct. 11
Workers finish reinforcing shaft
Oct. 13
Rescuers begin pulling miners to safety in a capsule

Source: Reuters, BBC, Graphic: Pat Carr, Lee Hulteng

© 2010 MCT

WORLD BRIEFS

Ahmadinejad makes a show of strength in Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP)—Iran's president made a bold show of strength in Lebanon on Wednesday, vowing before thousands of Hezbollah supporters that U.S. and Israeli power in the Middle East will soon be eclipsed. The visit by Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, welcomed by crowds of cheering Shiites, underscored the eroding position of pro-Western factions in Lebanon. More broadly, it suggested that the competition over influence in Lebanon may be tipping toward Iran and its ally Syria, away from the United States and it Arab allies Egypt and Saudi Arabia. "We seek a unified, modern Lebanon," said Ahmadinejad, whose country is the main patron of the Shiite Hezbollah militant group, the most powerful military force in Lebanon. "We will stand with the people and government of Lebanon—and with all elements in the Lebanese nation—until they achieve all their goals."

Beheadings, hangings plague Tijuana amid festival

TIJUANA, Mexico (AP)—A rash of decapitations and other gruesome killings have hit Tijuana since Mexican President Felipe Calderon visited the border city last week and called it a success in his drug war. The most recent killing occurred just before midnight Tuesday when motorists found a decapitated body underneath a bridge on a road leading to the beachside neighborhood of Playas de Tijuana, according to a police report Wednesday. Reporters at the scene saw a rope hanging from the bridge, suggesting the man had been hung from his feet but was too heavy and plunged into oncoming traffic.

Hurricane Paula weakens as it crawls toward Cuba

HAVANA, Cuba (AP)—Hurricane Paula weakened Wednesday on a rain-drenching crawl toward the lush tobacco-growing farmlands of western Cuba, threatening to inundate an area still seeking to recover from three major hurricanes in 2008. At 8 p.m. EDT, Paula remained a Category 1 storm with maximum sustained winds of 80 mph (130 kph), the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said. It had been a Category 2 storm earlier in the day. The hurricane's small core was centered some 30 miles (45 kilometers) west of Cuba's westernmost tip amid reports of heavy rain in the region, hours after Paula brushed past Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and the islands of Cozumel and Isla Mujeres.

Off the Wall

Dog gets new leash on life after euthanasia flub

AP

In this Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010 photo, Matt Olivarez, 27, pets his 11-year-old Rottweiler, Mia, at his home in Redford Township, Mich.

REDFORD TOWNSHIP, Mich. (AP)—A suburban Detroit man whose Rottweiler was given a new leash on life after surviving a botched euthanasia said he has neither the heart nor the money to try the procedure again.

Redford Township resident Matt Olivarez, 27, said he's in a tough spot: facing possible home foreclosure while at the same time trying to do right by Mia, an 11-year-old pooch that he feeds by hand, partly because of her spinal problem that makes walking difficult.

Olivarez said he took Mia to the Westcott Veterinary Care Center in Detroit on Saturday to alleviate her suffering. He said Westcott officials speculated afterward that the drug dosage wasn't strong enough or had been watered down.

He now shudders at the thought of almost burying his beloved pet alive.

"I don't know if I could do it a second time," Olivarez told The Detroit News for a story published Wednesday.

Olivarez said he returned to his garage Sunday morning and noticed Mia missing from where he'd placed her on a pile of hay the day before. He'd planned to bury her in his grandfather's backyard.

Instead, he turned to find her standing on all fours, staring at him.

"Are you still my dog?" he said, saying he felt like he was living a scene from one of the scary movies he enjoys. "It was like a scene from 'Pet Sematary.'"

Olivarez purchased Mia, the only member of her litter to survive, around the time his first child was born. She was intended to be a companion for his sons, now 8 and 9. Olivarez tried to explain Mia's resurrection to them Tuesday night.

"It's crazy," he said. "It's not something I planned for."

Meanwhile, Olivarez is seeking a new owner who can give Mia proper care.

"I'll keep her until I figure something out," he said.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Pa. teen crashes into center after passing test

BRIDGEVILLE, Pa. (AP)—A teenager who just passed his driving test crashed into a state driver license center in western Pennsylvania. The accident happened Wednesday afternoon as the teen was trying to leave the parking lot of a driver license center in the Pittsburgh suburb of Bridgeville. Officials said at least three people were injured, but their injuries were not considered serious. Township police Sgt. Brian Halbleib told the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review that the accident happened when the teen pulled into the parking lot of the driver license center to drop off the man who had administered the test. Halbleib said the teen thought the car was in park but it wasn't.

Police: Drunken men knocked at Pa. police station

UNIONTOWN, Pa. (AP)—Authorities in southwestern Pennsylvania say they charged two men with public drunkenness after they knocked on a police station door. A Uniontown police report said 30-year-old Alan Scritchfield, of Uniontown, and 30-year-old Peter Dominick, of McClellandtown, came to the police station about 9 p.m. Sunday. A police sergeant said Dominick was slurring his words while Scritchfield was drinking out of a plastic cup. Asked what was in it, Scritchfield allegedly told police, "alcohol, Crown Royal" before saying he was drunk. Scritchfield's home phone is disconnected. The Associated Press could not immediately locate a listed number for Dominick. Police said they subdued Dominick with a stun gun when he realized he was being arrested and tried to run away.

Lions and tigers and skin, oh my....

KINGSTON, Tenn. (AP)—Two former employees of a big cat refuge near Kingston said they drank beer and got naked on a front porch. But Jake Loftis and Samuel Adams said they were just listening to Bob Dylan music and not running nude through Tiger Haven, exposing themselves to co-workers, as their arrest warrants claim. Loftis told The Knoxville News Sentinel the Sept. 16 incident was "kind of a protest" over being fired. He said it was his idea to strip. The 22-year-old Loftis and Adams, who is 26, lived on the refuge property and worked as cat keepers. An attorney for Tiger Haven wasn't available to comment to the newspaper, but Loftis said he and Adams were told they were being let go because there wasn't enough work for them. Both are charged with indecent exposure and vandalism.

Gator eats boy's pet turtle at Florida aquarium

FORT WALTON BEACH, Fla. (AP)—A horrified 8-year-old boy watched as his pet turtle disappeared into an alligator's jaws at an aquarium in the Florida Panhandle. Colton Guthrie had donated his pet red-eared slider, Tomalina, to the Gulfarium in Fort Walton Beach when the turtle outgrew her home aquarium. Colton's mother told the Northwest Florida Daily News Tuesday that the family saw workers place Tomalina in an exhibit Thursday with other red-eared sliders and an alligator. Although the alligator had long ignored the other turtles, Brenda Guthrie said the gator ate Tomalina as Colton shouted, "Oh no, alligator, let it go!" The Gulfarium has apologized to the Guthries' and gave them a special meet-and-greet with the dolphins.

Science & Technology

Whale of a trip: Humpback makes record migration

LONDON (AP)—It wasn't love. It could have been adventure. Or maybe she just got lost.

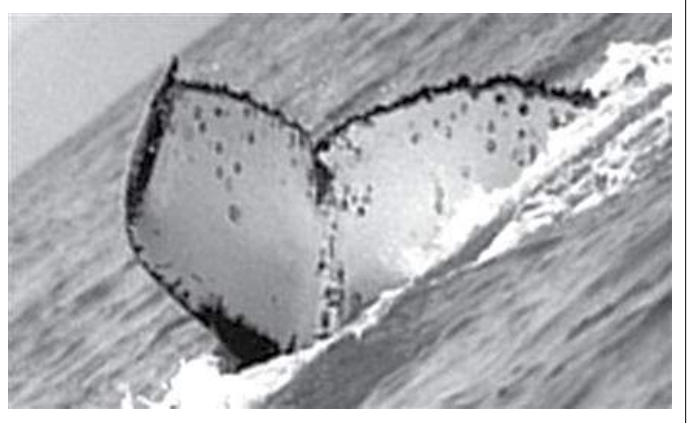
It remains a mystery why a female humpback whale swam thousands of miles from the reefs of Brazil to the African island of Madagascar, which researchers believe is the longest single trip ever undertaken by a mammal—humans excluded.

While humpbacks normally migrate along a north-to-south axis to feed and mate, this one—affectionately called AHWC No. 1363 - made the unusual decision to check out a new continent thousands of miles to the east.

Marine ecologist Peter Stevick says it probably wasn't love that motivated her—whales meet their partners at breeding sites, so it's unlikely that this one was following a potential mate.

"It may be that this is an extreme example of exploration," he said. "Or it could be that the animal got very lost."

Stevick laid out the details of the whale's trip on Wednesday in the Royal Society's Biology Letters, calculating that, at a minimum, the whale must have traveled about 6,200 miles (10,000 kilometers) to get from Brazil to Madagascar, off the coast of east Africa.



AP

This 2001 photo released by F. Johansen and taken in Madagascar, shows a female humpback whale's tail fin, commonly known as a "fluke." This photo was used to identify a whale that traveled some 6,200 miles from coastal Brazil to waters off the African island of Madagascar.

"No other mammal has been seen to move between two places that are further apart," said Stevick, who works at the Maine-based College of the Atlantic. And while he said "the distance alone would make it exceptional no matter where it had gone," there was an added element of interest.

Humpbacks are careful commuters, taking the same trip from cold waters where they hunt plankton, fish and krill to warm waters where they mingle and mate "year after year after year," he said. The location of their feeding and breeding spots sometimes varies, but their transoceanic commute doesn't usually change much.

Swapping a breeding ground in Brazil for one in Madagascar was previously unheard of.

"That's almost 90 degrees of longitude—so a quarter of the way around the globe," Stevick said. "Not only is this an exception, but it's a really remarkable exception at that."

Humpback whales are powerful swimmers, and the 40-ton (36-metric ton) behemoths typically clock up 5,000 miles in their trips from the frosty waters of the North Atlantic and the Antarctic to more temperate areas around the equator.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

†RICHARD BORJA CRUZ

"RICH"

June 20, 1962—October 12, 2010
Was called to his eternal rest on Tuesday, October 12, 2010
At the age of 48 Years.

In His death he now joins his:
Father: †Jose Mendiola Cruz
Father-in-Law: †Gorgorio Blas Basa
Brothers & Brother-in-Laws: †Roque Borja Cruz, †Ricky Borja Cruz, †Rafael Borja Cruz, †Joseph Diego CH. Basa, & †Benjamin Paul CH. Basa
Sister & Sister-in-Law: †Elizabeth Borja Cruz & †Trinidad Basa Carlson

His Peaceful spirit & memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Wife: Lillian Rose Chargualaf Basa Cruz
Children: Thomas & Lesley Ann (Dylen Kane, Tommy Gregory, & Tho'leyan Dyommy) Felisha Ann, Richard Joseph

Mother: Maria Borja Cruz
Mother-In-Law: Feliza Chargualaf Basa
Brothers & Brother-In-Laws: Ramon B./Margaret Cruz, Rudy B./Liza Cruz, Ronnie B. Cruz, Rudy B./Telwet Cruz, Alvin/Susan Basa, & Gregorio/Connie Basa
Sisters-In-Laws: Elizabeth/Tony Barge, Dorothy/Robert Post, Jessica Jane CH. Basa, & Vivian/Larry Iriarte

He will be truly missed by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and godchildrens.

Nightly Rosary is being said at 7:30pm at the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

On Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 7:00am, his remains will be escorted from CHC Morgue to Mount Carmel Cathedral for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am. Interment service will follow at the Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Ginen I Familia

Life & Style

Franzen's 'Freedom' not among book award finalists

NEW YORK (AP)—It's the Great American Snub.

Jonathan Franzen's "Freedom," the year's most highly praised and talked about literary novel, was not among the fiction finalists announced Wednesday for the National Book Awards.

Nine years ago, Franzen won for "The Corrections" and his latest book was a sensation even before its release, the subject of a Time magazine cover story and rave reviews and so in demand that President Obama obtained an early copy. Oprah Winfrey picked "Freedom" for her book club, even though Franzen's ambivalence in 2001 over her choosing "The Corrections" had led her to cancel his appearance on her show.

Nominees on Wednesday included Peter Carey, whose "Parrot and Olivier in America" was a runner-up for the Man Booker Prize, and such well-regarded authors as Nicole Krauss ("Great House") and Lionel Shriver ("So Much for That"). Eclectic and unpredictable, the book awards also welcomed a rock star, Patti Smith, a nonfiction contender for "Just Kids," a memoir about her friendship with photographer Robert Mapplethorpe; and an attorney, poetry finalist Monica Youn ("Ignatz"), whose day job is with the Brennan Center for Justice in New York.

Thirteen of the 20 finalists were women, a record.

Two Beijing-based journalists for the Los Angeles Times, Barbara Demick ("Nothing to Envy") and Megan K. Stack ("Every Man in This Village"), were nonfiction contenders, while previous nominees Rita Williams-Garcia ("One Crazy Summer") and Walter Dean Myers ("Lockdown") were finalists for young people's literature.

AP

In a Nov. 14, 2001 photo, novelist Jonathan Franzen is shown after the 2001 National Book Foundation's awards ceremony in New York.

Winners, each of whom receive $10,000, will be announced at a ceremony Nov. 17, hosted by humorist Andy Borowitz.

Franzen's publicist, Jeff Seroy at Farrar, Straus & Giroux, declined to comment.

His book wasn't the only notable work left out. Among the nonnominees were such novels as Karl Marlantes' "Matterhorn" and Tom Rachman's "The Imperfectionists," Ron Chernow's 800-page biography of George Washington and Edmund Morris' third and final book on Theodore Roosevelt.

"Obviously, `Freedom' is the big book of the year, but the question is what the National Book Awards are supposed to honor," said Harold Augenbraum, executive director of the National Book Foundation, a nonprofit organization that presents the awards. "We tell the judges just to look at the books and that outside chatter is not important. We go with that every year."

Established in 1950, the book awards are chosen in each category by five-member panels of fellow writers, with judges changing each year.

Two authors from small presses were fiction finalists: Jaimy Gordon, whose "Lord of Misrule" was released by McPherson & Company; and Karen Tei Yamashita's "I Hotel," published by Coffee House Press.

John Dower, a National Book Award winner in 1999 for his study of post-World War II Japan "Embracing Defeat," was a nonfiction nominee for "Cultures of War," which unfavorably contrasts the occupation of Iraq with U.S. policy after Japan surrendered in 1945. The other nonfiction finalist was Justin Spring's "Secret Historian," a biography of the gay author and collector Samuel Steward.

Besides Youn, poetry nominees were Kathleen Graber's "The Eternal City," Terrance Hayes' "Lighthead," James Richardson's "By the Numbers" and C.D. Wright's "One With Others." Young people's literature nominees included Paolo Bacigalupi's "Ship Breaker," Kathryn Erskine's "Mockingbird" (a tribute in part to Harper Lee's "To Kill a Mockingbird") and Laura McNeal's "Dark Water."

The announcement this year paid tribute to Southern writers and was held in the late Flannery O'Connor's childhood home, a three-story Victorian house in Savannah, Ga. "Prince of Tides" author and Georgia native Pat Conroy squinted through glasses at remarks he'd prepared in tiny handwriting on a yellow sheet of legal paper as he read the finalists' names and joked about the price of success.

"Their lovers will be ecstatic," Conroy said to laughter from about 40 people gathered in the cramped parlor. "Their families over the top with pride and their very best friends and fellow writers will be bitter and suicidal. ... It will be one of the finest days of their lives and everything that happens to them after this will be a downhill slide to the abyss."

Four of the finalists were born in the South.

Ex-Getty curator trafficking trial ends in Italy

ROME (AP)—A Rome judge declared an end Wednesday to the trial of a former J. Paul Getty Museum antiquities curator accused of knowingly acquiring looted art from Italy, citing the expiration of the statute of limitations, defense lawyers said.

The 6-year-old case against Marion True was followed with concern by museums worldwide and involved about 35 artifacts acquired by the Los Angeles museum between 1986 and the late 1990s—including bronze Etruscan pieces, frescoes and painted Greek vessels.

"I spoke to Mrs. True on her cell phone and she was glad that finally after 10 years the case is closed," said one of her lawyers, Francesco Isolabella. "The alleged crime is now wiped off the books."

Alessandro Vannucci, a defense attorney for the other defendant in the case, American art dealer Robert Hecht, said the ruling by Judge Gustavo Barbalinardo was expected because the legal time limit ran out in July. Wednesday's hearing in a Rome courthouse was the first session in the trial since a summer recess.

Vannucci said the trial will go forward for Hecht since there is a nine-year statute of limitations against him because of a slightly more serious charge.

The Getty said in a statement it is pleased the judge has ended what the museum called "a long and difficult ordeal."

Both defendants denied wrongdoing, and True's supporters had depicted her as a champion of scrupulous documenting of the provenance of antiquity pieces in the Getty collection.

True resigned from her post at the Getty in 2005 after museum officials determined she had violated policy by failing to report details of her purchase of a vacation home on a Greek island.

The Rome trial began in 2004 under an international spotlight drawing attention to Italy's aggressive campaign to win back ancient Roman, Greek and Etruscan vases, bowls, statues and other artifacts prosecutors contended were looted from the country to add prestige to collections in countries less steeped in millennia-old cultural glories.

Rome's courthouse was closed for the evening, and prosecutors in the case could not immediately be reached for comment.

AP

In this Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2005 file photo, former curator of the J. Paul Getty Museum in California Marion True is escorted by an unidentified lawyer as she leaves a Rome courtroom.

As Italian prosecutors pursued the case, centering on charges of association in illicit trafficking in antiquities, the aggressive strategy was keenly studied by other U.S. museums, which, one after the other, started returning star pieces in their collections to Italy.

Among the treasures coming back to Italy was the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Euphronios Krater, considered one of the most excellent ancient Greek vases in existence.

True had denied the charges she had conspired to illicitly traffic in ancient artifacts from Italy.

Vannucci said trial continues against 91-year-old Hecht because of his allegedly more serious role as head of the dealing carried a nine-year-long statute of limitations, expiring next summer.

He predicted Hecht's trial would also end before any verdict, since the court is still hearing prosecution witnesses, and time would run out before the defense could present its case.

Italian trials often drag on for years, since hearings in courtrooms with crowded dockets are held sometimes weeks or even months apart, and generally have a long summer recess.

Defendants are not required to appear in court during their trials, and True rarely came.

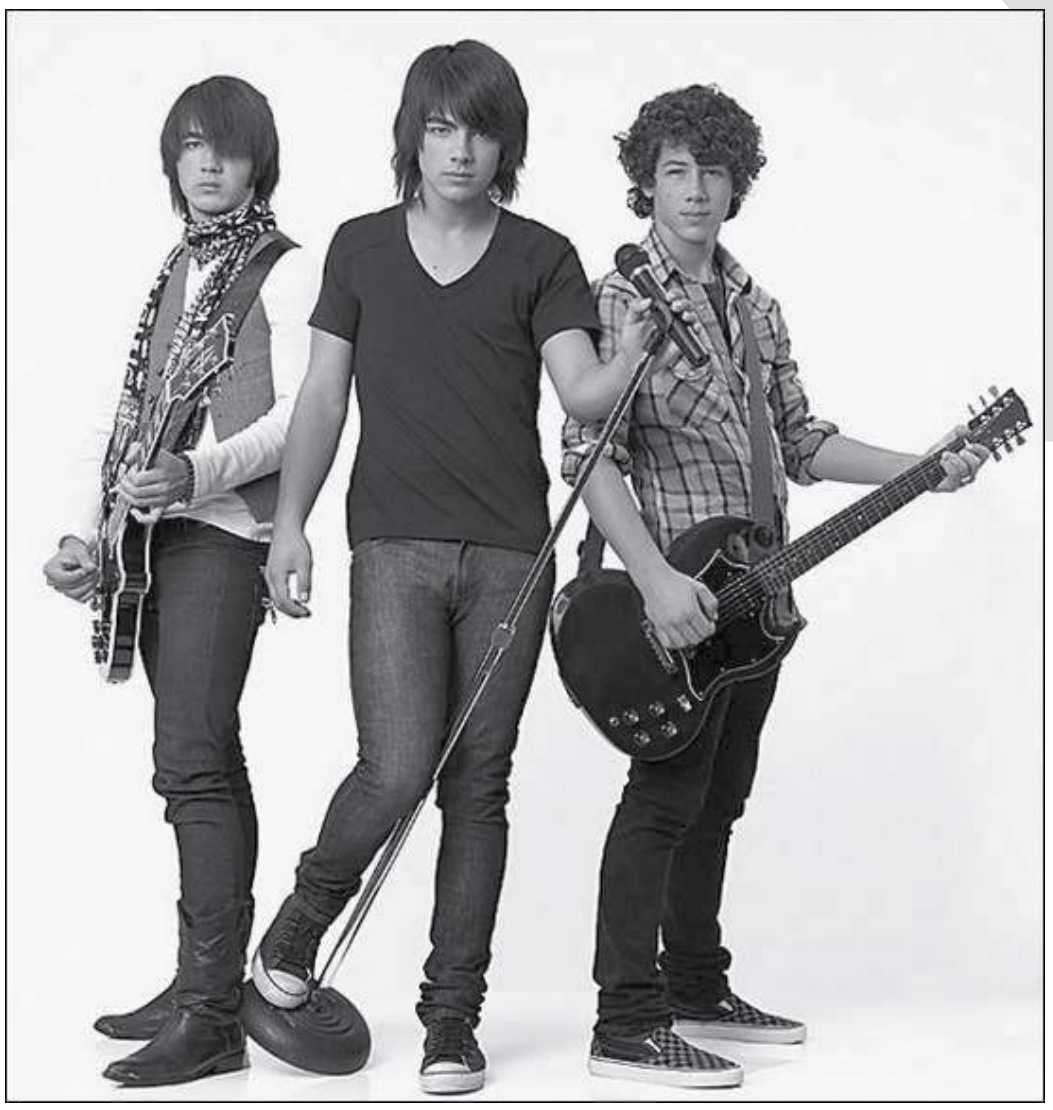
Italy's retrieve-its-treasures campaign was set in motion after a 1995 police raid on a Swiss warehouse of an Italian art dealer found a trove of artifacts and photos of antiquities, many of them still covered with dirt from being hastily excavated by illegal antiquities hunters in Italy.

The dealer, Giacomo Medici, was convicted by a Rome court of conspiracy to traffic in antiquities in 2004 and sentenced to 10 years in prison. Last year, an appeals court upheld the conviction but reduced his sentence to eight years. He remains free pending an appeal to Italy's highest court for criminal matters.

Authorities traced photos found in the raid to pieces held in museums worldwide, and contended that thousands of Roman, Greek and Etruscan antiquities were stolen or clandestinely excavated from Italian soil in the last decades, smuggled out of Italy and sold by dealers such as Medici.

The foundations of the case against True and Hecht were largely laid down from the Medici probe. Italy's campaign to recover the artifacts prompted top museums, including the Getty, to return dozens of pieces in return from long term loans of prestigious pieces in Italian museums. Greece, heartened by Italy's bold efforts, started demanding return of antiquities from foreign museums.

Jonas Brothers cancel Mexico show due to violence



MEXICO CITY (AP)—Disney stars the Jonas Brothers have canceled a concert scheduled in the Mexican city of Monterrey because of security concerns.

Concert promoter Live Nation says the Oct. 21 concert was canceled due to "a series of unfortunate events" in Monterrey and out of concern for fans.

Monterrey is Mexico's richest city and long one of its safest, but a wave of drug violence has shocked residents. More than 400 people have been killed this year in the state of Nuevo Leon, where Monterrey is located.

Jonas Brothers fan Dharyus Ledezma begged the trio on their Facebook page to announce a new concert date soon. The Monterrey resident said she had been looking forward to seeing them since the show was announced five months ago.

Civil retrial set in Jackson videotaping case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A retrial date has been set in a Los Angeles civil case brought by two lawyers against a defunct charter jet company and its owner over the secret videotaping of Michael Jackson and his attorneys during a 2003 flight.

A Los Angeles Superior Court judge on Wednesday set a new trial date of Feb. 14 in the invasion of privacy suit brought by Mark Geragos and Pat Harris.

The attorneys were awarded a multimillion-dollar judgment against XtraJet's owner Jeffrey Borer in March 2008, but that decision was overturned by an appeals court in January and lawyers for Geragos asked for a new trial rather than accept a reduced award.

Jackson

Borer and an associate previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy in a criminal case.

Jury in Smith case asks questions, ends day

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Jurors deliberating in the Anna Nicole Smith drug conspiracy case asked for an explanation Wednesday of two charges against Smith's boyfriend Howard K. Stern.

The panel later recessed deliberations for a second day without getting an answer or reaching verdicts.

In a note to the court, jurors asked how the two counts of unlawfully prescribing a controlled substance to Smith could apply to Stern.

His lawyer stressed in closing arguments that Stern is a lawyer, not a doctor, and could not have prescribed anything.

His co-defendants are Drs. Sandeep Kapoor and Khristine Eroshevich.

Jurors also asked if verdicts for Stern on some counts that include Kapoor or Eroshevich should be considered separately.

A hearing was scheduled for Thursday for attorneys to argue about how to answer the query.

Superior Court Judge Robert Perry, who presided over the trial, was on vacation. Another judge will preside over the hearing.

The six women and six men must decide whether Stern, Kapoor and Eroshevich provided excessive opiates and sedatives to the former Playboy model while knowing she was an addict. Defense lawyers said Smith was not an addict and the medications were for pain.

The defendants are not charged in Smith's 2007 overdose death in Florida.

Some charges dropped in designer's NYC sex case

NEW YORK (AP)—Prosecutors have dropped some of their slate of sex charges against fashion designer Anand Jon Alexander, but he's still fighting allegations of molesting nine would-be models.

Alexander remains convicted in a similar case in California. But one of his lawyers hailed Wednesday's dismissal of some of the New York charges as a good step for the designer, who says he's innocent of all the allegations.

"We're very pleased about (the dismissal) because we think it's the beginning of a case that's going to be fought very hard in court," attorney Adam Freedman said.

Born in India, Alexander—known professionally as Anand Jon—launched a fashion line in 1999 and built it into a high-flying career. He was featured on "America's Next Top Model," worked with such celebrities as Paris Hilton and Mary J. Blige and was among 20 people profiled by Newsweek in 2006 as up-and-coming players in various industries.

Then sex assault allegations against Alexander began surfacing in 2007. He was convicted in Los Angeles the next year of sexually assaulting seven women and girls, some as young as 14. He was sentenced to 59 years to life in prison.

In New York, he was originally charged with preying on a dozen women after contacting them with offers of modeling opportunities.

The Manhattan district attorney's office declined to say why prosecutors trimmed three women from the list. On Wednesday, a judge officially dismissed the charges related to those women.

Alexander, 37, has pleaded not guilty to rape and other charges in the New York case.

Would-be 'Canadian Idol' on bail in terrorism case

TORONTO (AP)—A terror suspect who appeared on the TV show "Canadian Idol" has been granted bail on charges connected to an alleged plot to build bombs.

The "Idol" contestant, Dr. Khurram Syed Sher, 28, was charged in August with conspiracy to promote terrorist activity. Police said they seized 50 circuit boards intended for use in remotely detonated bombs.

An Ontario court judge granted Sher bail Wednesday under strict conditions.

Sher has been ordered to live with Toronto-area relatives, who posted bond totaling $182,000. He must report to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police weekly.

Details of the bail proceedings are under a publication ban.

Sher appeared on the reality show in 2008 singing a comical version of Avril Lavigne's "Complicated," complete with dance moves that included a moonwalk.

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!

Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000

POWER 99 FM SAIPAN, CNMI

$5.50 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
$5.50 All Day Admission For Seniors
$4.50 All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)
$5.50 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
$5.50 Military with Valid I.D.

TIMEWARP TUESDAY $5.50 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com

dts DOLBY DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING WITH HIGH-BACK LOVESEATS

For Friday, October 15th though Thursday, October 21st
OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

NOW SHOWING

Red
Friday 4:15 7:15 9:50
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:50
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15
Mon through Thurs 4:15 7:15
Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman
Thriller, Action • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Warren Ellis' acclaimed Wildstorm comic series is adapted in this Summit Entertainment production starring Bruce Willis as a retired government hitman who gets targeted by the same outfit he once worked for. Morgan Freeman and Helen Mirren co-star, with Robert Schwentke (The Time Traveler's Wife) directing from a script by the Whiteout writing team of Erich and Jon Hoeber.

Easy A
Friday 4:10 7:10 9:45
Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:45
Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10
Mon through Thurs 4:10 7:10
Emma Stone, Penn Badgley
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Nathaniel Hawthorne's The Scarlet Letter is re-imagined as a contemporary high school comedy in this tale of a scheming student who plots to give her popularity a boost by painting herself the easiest lay in school.

Nanny McPhee Returns
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:35
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:35
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon through Thurs 4:05 7:05
Emma Thomson, Maggie Gyllenhaal
Comedy • Rated PG

Synopsis
A struggling mother receives some much-needed assistance tending to the family farm and raising a group of spirited children while her military husband is fighting overseas in this sequel to the whimsical 2005 fantasy comedy Nanny McPhee. Mrs. Isabel Green (Maggie Gyllenhaal) lives in a scenic valley with her two daughters and one son.

Life As We Know It
Friday 4:25 7:25 9:55
Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:55
Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25
Mon through Thurs 4:25 7:25
Katherine Heigl, Josh Duhamel
Drama, Comedy • Rated PG 13

My Soul To Take
Friday 4:30 7:30 10:00
Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30 10:00
Sunday 1:30 4:30 7:30
Mon through Thurs 4:30 7:30
Max Thieriot, John Magaro
Drama • Rated R

Eat, Pray, Love
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:40
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:40
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon through Thurs 4:00 7:00
Julia Roberts, James Franco
Drama • Rated PG 13

Legend Of The Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole
Friday 4:20 7:20 9:30
Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:30
Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20
Mon through Thurs 4:20 7:20
Sam Neil, Geoffrey Rush
Fantasy, Action • Rated PG

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS

GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.

www.gohollywood.com

Nurturing godmother should step back from caregiver role

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 23-year-old woman who has been helping to raise my three adorable godchildren over the last few years. Their mother is also 23. She became pregnant with her oldest when she was 15. She's a young single mother, unprepared for the full responsibility, so I have stepped in.

When they were babies, we would take turns rocking them all night. I take them to the doctor's when they are sick—with or without their mom. I helped select which schools they attend. Through the years I have been there every day, waking them in the morning, taking them to school, putting them to bed, etc.

I am now being married and have slightly reduced my day-to-day role, although I am still in many ways the "other parent." I get criticized for this all the time. I am constantly being told, "They are not your children. You shouldn't be doing this." Even my future in-laws have said it.

I don't know how to respond. I love the children very much, as if they were my own. I can't let them suffer for their mother's numerous mistakes. I'd appreciate any advice you can give me.

GODMOTHER OF THREE IN NEW ENGLAND

DEAR GODMOTHER: May I begin by asking, "Where is their MOTHER?" Where are the grandparents? Three children, no father(s)—who is supporting them? You are a caring angel to have stepped in to the extent that you have, but why isn't their mother around to put them to bed at night, wake them in the morning, and see that they get to the doctor when they are so sick they need one? Something is seriously out of kilter.

In the not-too-distant future you will have children of your own to care for. Husbands need a certain amount of care and nurturing, too. It will be impossible for you to continue to be as involved as you have been in your godchildren's lives. You are doing the right thing by transitioning away, and you must continue to do so. Much as you love them, your godchildren are their mother's responsibility, and you have already done more than you should have been expected (or asked) to do.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I had a troubled marriage. He was a good father and provider, and I respected him for that. But he did not respect me. He constantly blamed and criticized me for his many emotional problems. After I told him I was leaving him, he committed suicide.

My problem is, our adult children blame me for his death. I don't want to bad-mouth their father or tell them the unpleasant details of our marriage, but they don't know the whole story.

I have had lots of professional counseling and my kids have had some, but they refuse to attend any more sessions. Should I just continue to do the best I can and hope they can be more forgiving as they mature, or should I tell them my side of the story?

DOING THE BEST I CAN

DEAR DOING: Your children should have been told the whole story while you were together in counseling. If you allow them to continue in their belief that you caused their father's death, their anger will only continue to grow. If possible, that important conversation should be held with the help of a mediator. Because they refuse to see a therapist, I'm recommending your religious adviser.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

For Clooney, meeting presidents is a family thing

WASHINGTON (AP)—Actor George Clooney says he still gets a thrill when he meets with President Barack Obama—but to his father that kind of thing is old hat.

Clooney and Obama met on Tuesday to discuss ways of averting a potential civil war in Sudan. They've had similar meetings in the past. The first time, Clooney had a photo of him and the president enlarged and sent to his father, journalist Nick Clooney, saying, "Not bad for a kid from Kentucky."

Clooney told The Associated Press, "My Dad sent me back a picture of him in the Oval Office interviewing Gerald Ford and he's like, you know, 'Stand in line, pal!'"

Clooney seemed at home speaking with the president and other Washington officials this week, but said he has no interest in running for office himself.

He does, however, plan to continue traveling to Sudan, where he's been on an "overloaded plane flying through thunderstorms in the middle of nowhere" and has been spat on by an old woman in a hut.

That was a good thing.

Clooney says it was done by the grandmother of a friend. She asked him to get on his knees and Clooney said, "She takes your hand and she spits in both of your hands and then she pulls you down and spits on your head." His friend told him it was a blessing.

"That's actually the first time I've been spit on and it was a blessing!" Clooney said.

In this Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010 photo, actor George Clooney stands before his meeting with, Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., on Capitol Hill in Washington.

AP

Atlanta police: T.I. helped talk down jumper

In this Oct. 3, 2010 file photo, Grammy award winning artist Clifford "TI" Harris, left, poses for media with his wife Tameka "Tiny" Harris, right, during an Alzheimers "For the Love of Our Fathers" foundation honoree luncheon at the Luckie Lounge in Atlanta.

AP

ATLANTA (AP)—Police got unexpected help talking a suicidal man down from an Atlanta skyscraper on Wednesday when rapper T.I. showed up.

Officer James Polite says the hip-hop star joined the crowd outside the 22-story office building in midtown Wednesday and told officers he wanted to help. Police said the man agreed to come down in exchange for a few minutes face-to-face with T.I., whose real name is Clifford Harris.

"I told him it ain't that bad. It'll get better, to put the time and effort into making it better," T.I. said in a phone interview with The Associated Press. "I just reminded him know that I know. It looks bad right now, but it can turn around."

T.I. said he heard about the situation on the radio and drove to the building to help. He recorded a video of himself on a cell phone and rescue workers took it to the man to prove the rapper was really there.

The Atlanta native said the man seemed to be "beat up by life."

The suicidal man, whose name wasn't released, was taken to a hospital.

The good deed follows recent legal trouble for the rapper, who is due in court Friday for a parole hearing after being arrested on suspicion of drug offenses last month in Los Angeles. He's on supervised release after spending a year in prison on federal weapons charges.

Academy says no big change for 2012 Oscar date

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—The 2012 Oscars will not be weeks earlier than usual, as had been speculated—a move that would have upended Hollywood's crowded awards season.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences said in a statement late Wednesday that its Board of Governors had determined the date of the 84th Academy Awards "will not be significantly earlier than the now-traditional last Sunday in February."

But the statement left open the possibility of an earlier Oscar date in subsequent years, saying "the Academy's staff and Board will continue to evaluate the advantages and challenges associated with such a change."

The exact date of the 2012 Oscar ceremony has yet to be chosen. The 2011 Academy Awards show is set for Sunday, Feb. 27, at the Kodak Theatre in Los Angeles.

An Oscar statuette sits on display at an opening event for the "Meet The Oscars, New York" exhibit at the Time Warner Center in this Feb. 25, 2010 file photo taken in New York.

AP

Dane Cook's half-brother gets prison in theft case

WOBURN, Mass. (AP)—The half-brother of comedian Dane Cook has been sentenced to five to six years in prison by a Massachusetts judge after pleading guilty to stealing millions from the entertainer.

The Middlesex District Attorney's office says 45-year-old Darryl McCauley of Wilmington pleaded guilty Wednesday to charges of larceny, forgery and embezzlement. A judge also ordered him to make restitution.

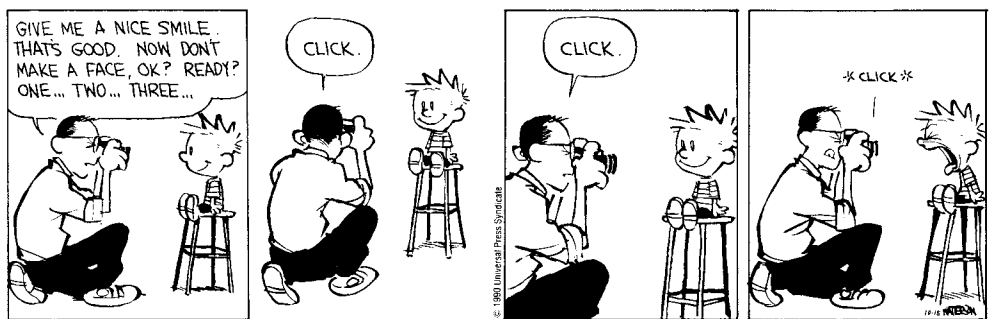
McCauley, who worked as Cook's business manager, was arrested in December 2008. He was accused of writing checks to himself from Cooks's company, Great Dane Enterprises, and transferring the funds to personal bank accounts.

An after-hours message left with McCauley's attorney was not immediately returned.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


GIVE ME A NICE SMILE. THAT'S GOOD. NOW DON'T MAKE A FACE, OK? READY? ONE... TWO... THREE...
CLICK.
CLICK.
CLICK
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate

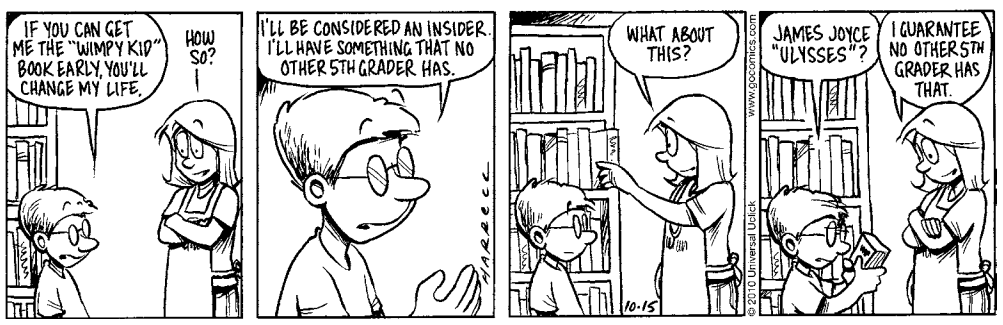
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

UH, JON?
WHY IS GARFIELD NUZZLING MY HAIR?
WELL, MY GUESS IS YOU USED A FRUIT-SCENTED SHAMPOO THIS MORNING
PEACH, TO BE PRECISE
www.garfield.com
© 2010 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved.
JIM DAVIS 10-15
Distributed by Universal Uclick

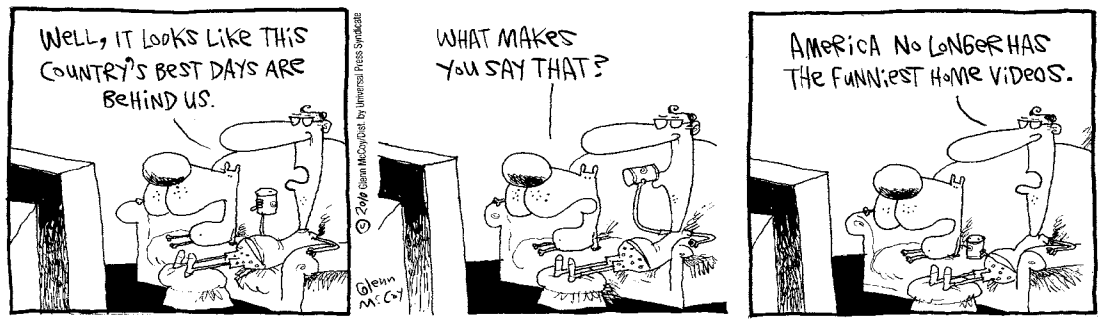
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


IF YOU CAN GET ME THE "WIMPY KID" BOOK EARLY, YOU'LL CHANGE MY LIFE.
HOW SO?
I'LL BE CONSIDERED AN INSIDER. I'LL HAVE SOMETHING THAT NO OTHER 5TH GRADER HAS.
WHAT ABOUT THIS?
JAMES JOYCE "ULYSSES"?
I GUARANTEE NO OTHER 5TH GRADER HAS THAT.
www.gocomics.com
10-15
© 2010 Universal Uclick

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WELL, IT LOOKS LIKE THIS COUNTRY'S BEST DAYS ARE BEHIND US.
WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?
AMERICA NO LONGER HAS THE FUNNIEST HOME VIDEOS.
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

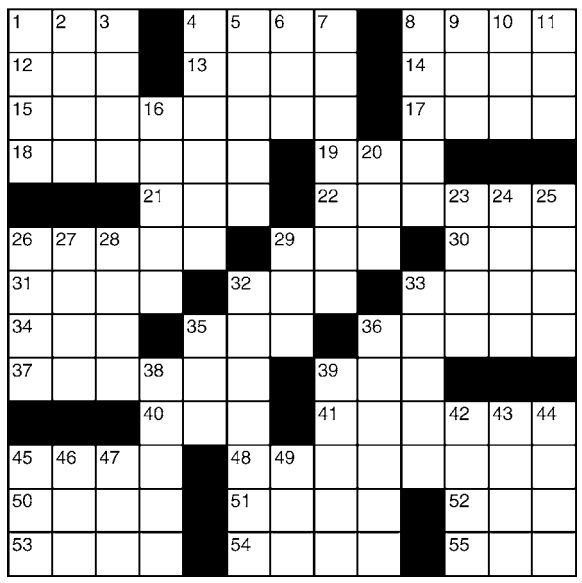
ACROSS
1 Allow
4 Cattle-drive item
8 Wharf
12 UN workers' agcy.
13 Hayseed
14 Incite
15 Airship
17 Part of the loop
18 Fly
19 Hostel
21 Neither mate
22 High point
26 Bowling Hall-of-Famer Pete
29 Dawn droplets
30 Witness
31 Jack and Jill's course
32 Stocking woe
33 Lost intentionally
34 401(k) alternative
35 X rating?
36 Consecrate
37 Serengeti equines
39 Architect I.M.
40 Midafternoon, maybe
41 Yule quaff
45 Suspended
48 Now-or-never time
50 Sandwich treat
51 Ms. Brockovich
52 — Lanka
53 Kin of 8-Across
54 Cowgirl Evans
55 Kreskin's claim

DOWN
1 Joel's "Cabaret" co-star
2 Ht.
3 Pith helmet
4 Old Roman magistrate
5 Monarch
6 Sapporo sash
7 Dweller
8 "Zorba the Greek" star
9 Ode inspirer
10 In olden days
11 Longing
16 Do the den walls
20 Fresh
23 Gilligan's home
24 Golf bag gadgets
25 Chops
26 Expert
27 Green acres?
28 Spill the beans
29 Press for payment
32 Fixed a ring, perhaps
33 "Bounty" captain
35 Skater Babilonia
36 "Scat!"
38 Severity
39 Danger
42 Durante trademark
43 Cather's "One of —"
44 Clench
45 Short trip
46 Spoonbender Geller
47 Born
49 Historic time

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	H	E	D	■	A	C	I	D	■	B	A	T
E	A	S	E	■	C	O	D	A	■	A	G	O
C	L	A	S	S	R	O	O	M	■	N	U	N
T	O	U	P	E	E	■	■	P	O	K	E	Y
■	■	■	O	X	■	L	A	S	E	R	■	■
C	Y	S	T	■	W	A	X	■	R	U	S	H
B	A	H	■	■	A	G	E	■	■	P	E	A
S	H	O	O	■	R	E	S	■	S	T	A	G
■	■	W	A	T	E	R	■	P	I	■	■	■
R	O	C	K	Y	■	■	S	A	L	A	M	I
E	R	A	■	L	I	F	E	L	I	N	E	S
A	S	S	■	E	V	I	L	■	C	O	A	L
D	O	E	■	R	E	E	L	■	A	N	T	E

Yesterday's answer 10-15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Vanessa Marcil, 42; Emeril Lagasse, 51; Sarah Ferguson, 51; Penny Marshall, 67

Happy Birthday: Keep your eyes open wide when dealing with large corporations or government agencies. Don't leave anything to chance. Maintain communication with family so that no one is taken by surprise when you decide to make a change. Life is simple so don't make it unnecessarily complex. Your numbers are 9, 12, 19, 26, 33, 39, 41

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Lend a helping hand. The impression you make will lead to a proposal you will want to consider. Someone with more experience or something you learned in the past will help you make the right choice now. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You have more options but won't realize it if you are too absorbed in a personal problem. Move toward a brighter future by branching out in a direction that allows you to put your skills, talents and attributes to better use. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take on a challenge. A job prospect looks good and can help you solve some of your personal problems if you make a move. A short trip will enable you to connect with someone helpful. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): There will be changes made based on what you do that will influence your future. Love and romance are apparent. A promise made will enable you to improve your current living situation. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You may be undecided about someone or something going on in your personal life. Sort out what needs to be done and move forward before you don't have a choice. Change will be required and, although distasteful initially, you will benefit in the end. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Change is required but you cannot do it alone. Ask the people you feel most akin to for help. Join forces so you can all pitch in to make life easier for you as a group. Reverting back to an old lifestyle will help cut costs. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Ease your stress by moving forward. Deal with the people who influence your life and your emotional well-being. The changes you make at home will bring marked improvement for you and anyone you reside with. Don't look back. ✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Don't allow innuendos or someone's negativity to take you in the wrong direction. You know what changes need to be made, so get moving. Opportunity knocks but, if you aren't ready because you are too busy satisfying everyone around you, you will get left behind. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You can focus on getting ahead and advance or you can focus on what's going on in your personal life and take a step backward. There is nothing you can do to change the past, so own up to any wrongdoing and move forward. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Lift any burden that has been put on you. It's OK to say no if you don't have time or if someone is taking advantage of your generosity and good nature. Think of what's best for you and your family and act accordingly. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): There are plenty of possibilities but you have to make a choice. You can remain in the same position, doing the same thing over and over again, or you can make the changes required to bring greater satisfaction to your life. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You can win favors as well as someone's approval if you are willing to go the distance and follow through with your promises. Don't become a chameleon or let someone's negativity or refusal to take part in your plans stop you from reaching your set goals. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, emotional and stubborn. You take life seriously and play to win.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		7	6	5		4		
	9		7					
					4	1		6
			9				2	
		8		1		9		
	3				8			
8		5	4					
					5		8	
		2		8	7	3		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 10/15

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	3	2	5	7	4	8	6	1
8	5	7	3	1	6	9	2	4
6	1	4	9	8	2	3	5	7
5	7	6	4	3	1	2	9	8
2	4	9	8	6	5	7	1	3
3	8	1	2	9	7	5	4	6
7	2	8	6	4	9	1	3	5
4	9	3	1	5	8	6	7	2
1	6	5	7	2	3	4	8	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/14

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

HARBORS AND PORTS Solution: 10 letters

R	L	S	W	P	N	K	C	S	T	A	O	B	R	R
O	O	A	H	S	A	O	C	L	R	L	R	O	S	E
P	V	H	N	E	T	T	I	E	I	I	O	R	P	T
E	E	L	C	G	L	E	H	T	D	M	E	E	A	A
G	D	O	I	N	I	T	E	G	A	V	A	N	S	W
N	I	A	H	C	A	S	E	R	I	T	H	T	S	K
I	T	D	G	E	I	O	I	R	H	A	S	R	E	A
H	S	T	W	U	C	N	U	T	L	T	S	Y	N	E
S	H	O	R	E	E	N	C	T	O	T	A	L	G	R
I	I	C	A	A	D	A	L	R	N	P	E	A	E	B
F	P	N	H	E	P	E	M	O	T	E	S	K	R	O
R	S	L	R	T	S	E	Y	U	S	O	R	E	S	G
A	E	T	A	S	S	A	Ⓓ	Ⓞ	Ⓒ	Ⓚ	L	R	E	R
H	O	I	E	N	U	E	V	I	R	R	A	I	U	A
W	N	V	P	Q	K	M	R	O	F	T	A	L	P	C

© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 10/15

Anchor, Arrive, Boats, Breakwater, Bridge, Captain, Cargo, Chain, Climate, Cruise, Current, Deck, Depart, Dock, Entry, Fishing, Halt, Lake, Load, Marine, Moor, Ocean, Passengers, Path, Pier, Pilot, Plank, Platform, Quay, Rest, Rivers, Rope, Seas, Shelter, Ships, Shore, Signal, Spot, Station, Steer, Storm, Tide, Undertow, Vessel, Wave, Weather, Wharf

Yesterday's Answer: Bargain

SALE: The topics of Wonderword for Kids' appeal to younger fans but the puzzle difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

FOX TERRIER
ALSATIAN
DACHSHUND

WHATZIT? © 2010 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section

BUSH CUTTER REPAIR
Only $35 Service
For lawnmower small engine
Please call
233-5641
Open: 7 Day a Week 9:00 AM-9:00 PM

Computer Repair
Only $25 Minor Problem
WE ALSO FIX LAPTOP & USED PARTS
17" Monitor – FOR SALE
233-5641
Open: 7 Days a Week 9:00am - 9:00pm

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax. (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Marianas Public Land Trust

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANAS PUBLIC LAND TRUST, Plaintiff, vs. KYLE E.M. ULECHONG and JENNIFER N.W. ULECHONG, Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 09-0407 AMENDED SUMMONS**

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS, KYLE E.M. ULECHONG and JENNIFER N.W. ULECHONG:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the Complaint for Foreclosure by Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust, and serve a copy of your answer upon **Robert Tenorio Torres**, attorney for Plaintiff Marianas Public Land Trust, at **Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950**; and in case of failure to do so, a default will be rendered against you according to the demand of the Petition, which has been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So **ORDERED** this 25th day of November, 2009.

/s/ Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

Andrea Ozawa
P.O. Box 503851 CK
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No.: c/o 234-5100

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION FOR THE CHANGE OF NAME OF: ANDREA OZAWA (a.k.a. ANDREA CARR OZAWA), Petitioner.	**FCD-CN CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0503 NOTICE OF HEARING**

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 25, 2010 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo

DATED this 22nd day of September 2010.

BERNADITA A. SABLAN
Clerk of Court

/s/
By Deputy Clerk of Court

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

HILLTOP APARTMENTS Ready move in 1&2 BR w/ own BTH in each room. Beautiful view Lao-Lao Bay. Plenty of breeze. All units feature a private view balcony & fully furnished. Across Stanford Hotel. 24HR Wtr, night-time security, common laundry, typhoon shutters, on-call maintenance, generator, ample parking & swimming pool. Call 285-1317.

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... $25.00 without Insurance
Call: 233-9889, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)
Some conditions may apply

TJM Lawn Care Services
WE OFFER $30.00 per house (negotiable)
Contact: Tahira S. Miah
Tel: 288-8897 • Cel: 287-8896

WHATZIT Solution: Every dog has its day

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars. Year must be 2000 & above. We pay cash! Please call 287-7676.

Psychic Ms. Edwards
- Solve all problems
- Miracle Worker
- European Healer
- Never failed in 32 years
- Reunite lovers
- Severe case specialist

Call now for amazing results. Free reading.
(518) 618-5673

DANDAN HOUSE
Lease or Rent $900/month
• 4 Bed room • 2 Bath room
Located near DanDan Elementary School
Tel: 288-1363-4/musungspn@gmail.com

Braves waste no time, name Gonzalez manager

ATLANTA (AP)—The Braves didn't even wait 48 hours to introduce Bobby Cox's replacement.

No need. Fredi Gonzalez was Atlanta's manager-in-waiting almost as soon as Cox announced that 2010 would be his final season.

In what was nothing more than a formality, Gonzalez took over Wednesday as the team's new manager, succeeded the fourth-winningest skipper in baseball history.

Gonzalez said he's not worried about following in Cox's large footsteps. The Braves' manager since 1990, he led the team to an unprecedented 14 straight division titles and the 1995 World Series championship. After missing the playoffs the last four years, Atlanta returned as a wild card this season.

Cox's managing career ended Monday night when the Braves, devastated by injuries, lost to San Francisco in Game 4 of the NL division series.

"Our goal is simple: We want to keep putting flags on that facade up there," Gonzalez said. "I don't think there's a person alive that's going to replace Bobby Cox. We just want to continue the winning tradition and go from there."

Gonzalez's return to the Atlanta, where he served as Cox's third-base coach from 2003-06, has been widely expected ever since he was fired in June by the Florida Marlins.

"This is perfect for us on so many levels," said general manager Frank Wren, who didn't even bother interviewing another candidate.

When Cox decided late last season to retire in 2010, the Braves came up with about 15 possible candidates and had the 46-year-old Gonzalez at the top of the list right from the start - even though he was managing the Marlins.

"He was on our radar before he was available," Wren said. "We thought there may come a time when we were going to have to ask the Florida Marlins for permission to talk to their manager. We really thought Fredi was the best candidate for us."

Gonzalez apprenticed under Cox before leaving to take over as Florida's manager, a post he held for 3 1/2 years. He had a record of 276-279 with the Marlins, one of baseball's lowest-spending teams.

Florida fired Gonzalez on June 23, a month after he benched star shortstop Hanley Ramirez for a lack of hustle—a move that many believed angered owner Jeffrey Loria.

The Marlins said they changed managers because the team needed a boost, but the switch to Edwin Rodriguez didn't help much. Florida was 34-36 when Gonzalez was dismissed and ended up 80-82, third in the NL East.

Gonzalez said he never thought that disciplining Ramirez would become such a big deal, perhaps contributing to him losing his job but drawing praise from around baseball.

"That's the way I was brought up," he said. "I know the way the game should be played. If you don't do something, you're going to lose those 24 other guys. For me, it was just a simple thing to do."

Cox kicked off the changing of the Braves guard by holding a farewell news conference of his own at Turner Field, reminiscing about a career that will surely earn him a spot in Cooperstown. He plans to work on his golf game and do a little traveling, but he's mainly looking forward to not having to live by a schedule.

AP

Atlanta Braves general manger Frank Wren, left, shakes hands with new manager Fredi Gonzalez during a news conference where Gonzalez was introduced as the baseball team's news manager, Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2010, in Atlanta.

"I don't really have a bucket list," he said.

Cox will remain with the team as a consultant and looks forward to spending time at spring training, but he's going to be mostly in the background—just as he was at Gonzalez's news conference, sitting to the left of the new manager at the end of the table.

This is Fredi's team now.

"I don't feel any outside pressure because I'm the next guy after Bobby," Gonzalez said. "It never crossed my mind to shy away from being that guy. Somebody's got to do it. I'm honored they asked me to do it."

Less than two weeks after Gonzalez was fired by the Marlins, he was at Wren's lake cabin in east Alabama for a daylong interview. A few days later, team president John Schuerholz met with Gonzalez. Finally, in September, the top two Braves officials held one more formal interview with Gonzalez and knew they had the right guy.

"He's got a great personality," Wren said. "Players gravitate toward him. They like playing for him. It's important that guys like playing for you, because they'll usually play even better. We've seen him over the course of time. Managing at the major league level is different, but we saw what he did at Florida. He ran a good game."

Cox chimed in, saying it's not going to be that tough for Gonzalez to put him own stamp on the job.

"Walter Alston was replaced by Tommy Lasorda," Cox said. "Tommy did a great job and they forgot all about Walter Alston. That is what's going to happen here."

Gonzalez turned down the chance to talk with four other teams that need or were considering new managers, most notably the Chicago Cubs. He doesn't even have to worry about moving; he kept his home in suburban Atlanta, where his wife and two children continued to live while he was with the Marlins.

He's home again.

Gonzalez said he'll do a few things differently than Cox. Perhaps the most noticeable change will be having the players stretch on the field before batting practice, something his predecessor never asked the Braves to do.

Also, the Braves shook up Cox's coaching staff just a bit, firing first-base coach Glenn Hubbard and bench coach Chino Cadahia. Carlos Tosca, who was with Gonzalez in Florida, will take over the bench coach duties and hitting coach Terry Pendleton will shift over to Hubbard's post.

The Braves plan to hire a new hitting coach after struggling at the plate this season. Three other members of Cox's staff will remain in the same posts: pitching coach Roger McDowell, third-base coach Brian Snitker and bullpen coach Eddie Perez.

"There's not going to be a lot of crazy changes," Gonzalez said. "The players might not even notice it. But whoever comes in has their own little way of doing things."

Cox recalled the advice he gave Gonzalez when he first took the Florida managing job in 2007.

"You are who you are. You've got to be yourself," the now-retired manager said. "Fredi's got the right makeup to be a great manager. He has all the respect around baseball that you can get. I just want to be in the background. There's always going to be new starts, and Fredi is getting a new start here."

A-Rod, Teixeira return to Texas with Yankees

NEW YORK (AP)—Mark Teixeira wishes the Texas Rangers would have won earlier.

As in, when he played in the Lone Star State and Tom Hicks still owned the never-quite-successful team.

"Mr. Hicks was a great owner," the New York Yankees first baseman said Wednesday, "and I wish it would have been with Mr. Hicks, because he did so many great things for Dallas and for us as players. But I know he's still going to enjoy the run that they're making."

Teixeira and Alex Rodriguez are a big part of the story in the AL championship series, which the Yankees open at Rangers Ballpark on Friday night. The pair failed to lead the Rangers to a single playoff appearances during their time deep in the heart of Texas.

The Rangers have never won the World Series, losing to the Yankees in the first round of the playoffs in 1996, 1998 and 1999. They went bankrupt under Hicks, who bought the team from former President George W. Bush's group in 1998 for $250 million. In a court-ordered auction, Hicks sold the franchise in August for $590 million to new owners headed by team president and former Rangers star Nolan Ryan.

Teixeira made it to the major leagues with the Rangers in 2003 and became an All-Star before he was dealt to Atlanta in July 2007. He moved on to the Los Angeles Angels the following year before striking a deal with the Yankees.

Rodriguez signed a record $252 million, 10-year contract with Texas before the 2001 season. But the Rangers struggled on the field even as A-Rod put up big numbers at the plate.

"We had high hopes, just like they have now," Rodriguez said "It's just things didn't work out as far as us winning games."

Almost dealt to the Boston Red Sox after the 2003 season, he wound up on the Yankees a few months later. He got caught up in the Rangers' bankruptcy case because the team still owes $24.9 million in deferred compensation.

"I'm just happy they got funded," Rodriguez said.

He says he roots for the Rangers—except not in this series—and many of his closest friends live in Big D.

"Dallas, the whole Metroplex area deserve a winner," Rodriguez said.

One of Teixeira's best friends is Rangers third baseman Michael Young, and they text each other weekly. Teixeira still has ties to the area.

Someone asked if he owns a house there.

"I still do, unfortunately," he said, seemingly a reference to depressed sales prices.

"I loved playing there, loved living there," said Teixeira, who moved to Connecticut last offseason. "I have a lot of friends I'm going to see in Texas. We'll probably go to dinner tomorrow night. And a lot of tickets to give away, too."

Rodriguez has been impressed by the Rangers' play, which has put them in the ALCS for the first time.

"As you saw last night in the first five innings, they stole three runs," he said. "Always expect the unexpected with them because they're overly aggressive, both on the bases, defensively and offensively. They do a very good job of attacking."

He only saw part of Game 5 against Tampa Bay.

"Then I went to watch a movie," he said. "`Social Network.' You should read the book."

Report: NFL could lose $1 billion with lockout

CHICAGO (AP)—The NFL reportedly could lose $1 billion if there is a lockout after the March 3 expiration of the collective bargaining agreement—even if the entire 2011 season is played.

The Wall Street Journal reported the figure Wednesday, citing unidentified senior NFL officials familiar with information presented to the 32 team owners at the league's meeting in Chicago.

"People think we can have a knockdown drag-out fight and settle on March 1, and everything will be fine, and it's not true," Eric Grubman, the league's executive vice president for finance, told the newspaper.

The paper said the NFL could lose $400 million in March alone, when many season tickets are renewed, and another $500 million if preseason games are canceled next summer because of labor unrest.

Though the story said all teams were profitable, a league official told The Associated Press the NFL has never made that claim.

The Journal also said each team could expect to lose about $8 million for every canceled home game.

Asked to comment on the newspaper report, James Quinn, a players' union lawyer, said the league had only itself to blame for any financial woes.

"This is a predicament of the NFL's choosing," Quinn said in a statement issued Wednesday by the NFLPA. "They took a juggernaut business in a challenged economy and then sent a message of a voluntary shutdown. NFL players proposed a `lock-in' last year to get this done and they said no.

"The owners pocketed over $300 million in cash savings in the uncapped year alone," Quinn said.

NFL owners opted out of the collective bargaining agreement with the players in 2008, resulting in no salary cap this season. Although several of them were optimistic Tuesday that a new deal could be reached by the end of the season, they also emphasized the dangers of not reaching a timely agreement.

AP

Arizona Cardinals receiver Larry Fitzgerald stretches during NFL practice Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2010, in Tempe, Ariz. The Cardinals have a bye week and next face the Seahawks on Oct. 24. The NFL reportedly could lose $1 billion if there is a lockout after the March 3 expiration of the collective bargaining agreement—even if the entire 2011 season is played.

"I see history as a teacher," Colts owner Jimmy Irsay said. "I'm thankful to have been through it multiple times and (previous stoppages) stick in your mind. We've had a tremendous growth and building of this league and we don't want to lose that momentum."

NFL revenues are expected to approach $9 billion this year, but owners claim too much (nearly 60 percent) goes to players. They say they have huge debts from building stadiums and starting up the NFL Network and other ventures, making it impossible to be profitable.

Marc Ganis, the president of the Chicago-based consulting company Sports Corp. Ltd., agrees that the league is starting to feel the effects of a potential labor stoppage.

"Although the amount lost by the NFL today is modest, it will grow very significantly as we approach the budget cycle of advertisers and sponsors, which is typically nine months in advance," said Ganis, who said he was aware of at least two teams that were losing money. "What may be a small amount today as we turn the calendar will be a much higher amount and as we go into spring with no CBA, a significantly higher amount."

Elbow latest problem for Favre

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP)—Brett Favre's latest problem is his elbow.

With the NFL investigating whether he sent lewd photos of himself to a Jets game hostess while he played for New York in 2008, Favre said Wednesday that his cherished, league-record streak of 289 straight starts could be in danger if the pain in his right elbow gets any worse.

The 41-year-old quarterback did not practice with Minnesota on Wednesday, preferring to rest the tendinitis that flared up noticeably on Monday night in the Vikings 29-20 loss to the Jets.

"I don't want to play just to play," Favre said. "It's kind of a funny injury. It could flare up and get worse."

It's even more adversity for Favre this season, which so far has been anything but a repeat of last year's charmed run to the NFC title game. How bad is it? On Wednesday, local TV station WCCO posted video of Favre getting hit in the groin by a stray football during a warm up before practice started.

Commissioner Roger Goodell said on Tuesday there is no timetable for completing an investigation into a Deadspin report that Favre sent inappropriate messages and photos to Jenn Sterger in 2008.

And the Vikings are off to a 1-3 start heading into what they call a must-win game against Dallas on Sunday.

"I don't rank them," Favre said on Wednesday when asked how the allegations measure up to other issues he's dealt with in his career. "I'm thrilled to be here and have an opportunity to lead this team to the Super Bowl. ... There's still a lot of football left. I feel very confident in a lot of ways.

"You go through different things in your life. Football is a very tough sport, mentally and physically. Last year was great. Almost too great. But I woke up this morning and was very eager to get over here. Moreso than last year at this time, to get this back on track. I feel confident that (the team) will right itself in the end."

In 20 years in the NFL, Favre has been through tough times before.

From his addiction to pain killers early in his career, to his wife being diagnosed with breast cancer, and through the death of his father, Favre has always managed to keep his focus on the game, often delivering some of his best performances along the way.

"I think he's really handling it well. I really do," said Vikings kicker Ryan Longwell, a close friend of Favre's from their days together in Green Bay. "The guy is so resilient and has his priorities straight, and I think in the midst of a tough, tough situation, across the board, I think he's handled it really well."

Favre said on Wednesday that it was his elbow, not the investigation, that hampered him against the Jets.

He completed 14 of 34 passes and grabbed his arm several times as he tried to rally the Vikings. He threw three touchdowns in the second half, but also sealed their fate with an interception that was returned for a touchdown late in the fourth quarter.

Coming off the most accurate season of his career, Favre missed several wide open receivers on throws "that I could have made blindfolded" were it not for the pain in his elbow.

"You're not going to make every throw but I would have made some of those throws," Favre said.

He insisted yet again that the allegations from a Deadspin report played no factor in his performance. Favre said his preparation and focus "may even be better" now than it's ever been.

Vikings coach Brad Childress said he's "worried about both" Favre's physical condition with the elbow injury and his mental state with the investigation ongoing. But he also said that he feels that way about all of his players after the slow start for a team that began the year with Super Bowl aspirations.

"I am not overly concerned about where he's at with whatever he's got going on in his life," Childress said. "I don't mean to minimize it. It is what it is. But I see a guy that is here ready and prepared and doing the work. I don't see ill effects from that."

His teammates are rallying around their leader, the man they prodded to return for one more run at a title.

"I respect the guy so much, and I've seen him go through a lot over the 14 years we've been together," said Longwell, who was one of three Vikings to visit Favre in Mississippi in August. "And certainly we realize he stuck out his neck for us when we went down there and we certainly are not going to turn now at this point."

The Vikings host the struggling Cowboys on Sunday and then have games at Green Bay and at New England to finish a brutal four-game stretch.

Favre said he will "be smart" with his practice reps this week to rest his elbow as much as possible, all while trying to quickly forge a connection with new receiver Randy Moss.

He feels "very good about the preparation" this week to face a desperate Cowboys team that needs a win as much as the Vikings do.

As for the investigation, said Childress on Monday night: "We can't afford to have it carry over the rest of the season."

Chargers' McNeill agrees to 5-year contract extension

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Chargers left tackle Marcus McNeill has the long-term deal he sought all along.

McNeill agreed Wednesday to a five-year contract extension through 2015. It's believed to be worth $48.5 million, with $24.5 million guaranteed.

It took a holdout, a team-imposed suspension and having his pay slashed for this season to get to this point, but McNeill said it was worth it.

"I think we handled it the best way it could have been," McNeill said after practice, and a few hours before the deal was announced. "Of course, you have other decisions that you could have made, but now that I'm getting my deal and everything is going the right way, I feel like everything was pretty productive. I would have rather been out there the first five games but sometimes the business side of it takes its course and that's what happened this time."

Because this is an uncapped season, McNeill was a restricted free agent even though his original four-year contract expired after last season. When he didn't sign his $3,168,000, one-year tender by June 15, the Chargers reduced the tender to 110 percent of his 2009 salary, or $630,000. McNeill sat out training camp and the first two games before signing the tender.

When he did sign the tender, he had to sit out three games because he'd been placed on the roster exempt list in a hardball tactic by general manager A.J. Smith.

Because he missed five games, the prorated tender amount would be $444,705.

McNeill's agent, Alvin Keels, said McNeill would get a "slight bump" in pay for this season, but didn't give a specific number.

Second-year pro Brandyn Dombrowski replaced McNeill, having some good games and some bad ones in protecting quarterback Philip Rivers' blind side.

McNeill is expected to play Sunday, but he might not start.

"I'm not completely back in the starting unit yet," McNeill said. "I have a long way to go. I want to make sure my footwork and all my technique is completely salvageable before I step out on the field. There would be nothing worse than me to get out there unprepared and unready and trying to be protecting Philip's blind side. You can't have that, so me and Dombrowski definitely are going to go back and forth on everything to make sure everything is right before I get a chance to step back into that starting position."

Arenas fined for faking injury before Wizards game

WASHINGTON (AP)—For someone looking to get back into the good graces of his team, its fans and the NBA, Gilbert Arenas has a funny way of showing it.

The Washington Wizards guard's latest escapade took place Tuesday, when coach Flip Saunders announced before a preseason game against the Atlanta Hawks that Arenas would miss the contest with a sore left knee.

But Arenas revealed after the Wizards' 107-92 victory that he pretended to have a bum knee to give teammate Nick Young a chance to start. He told reporters Wednesday that he was trying to do Young a favor.

"I lied to coach and told him my knee was sore so he'd start Nick," Arenas said.

Arenas was fined an undisclosed amount by the Wizards for his deception. It was another blow to the image of a player who is still trying to recover from his 50-game suspension and felony conviction for bringing guns into the locker room last season.

After Wednesday's practice, Arenas first said he wasn't talking, then appeared before reporters offering a halfhearted apology for his actions.

"I screwed up again, so I just want to say sorry," he said. "I wasn't really thinking that this was going to be another media outburst. It's like everything I do now, someone, tit for tat, tries to blow it out of proportion."

AP

Washington Wizards' JaVale McGee, left, watches from the bench with teammate Gilbert Arenas, right, during the fourth quarter of an NBA preseason basketball game against the Atlanta Hawks in Washington, on Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010. Wizards coach Flip Saunders said before Tuesday night's game that Arenas' knee was bothering him. The Wizards defeated the Hawks 107-92.

Arenas' altruistic gesture might have gone over a little better if Arenas didn't lie to his coach, or if he hadn't already ruffled feathers this preseason with his moody press conference at the team's media day or his statements that he would "move on" after helping No. 1 pick John Wall learn the ropes.

Saunders, who has gone out of his way to defend Arenas this preseason, said he was shocked and disappointed with Arenas. He spoke to Arenas and the team about the situation.

"I was probably the most surprised," Saunders said. "I got a text late last night. When I talked to Gil at the shootaround, he indicated that his knee was a little bit sore and stiff and he didn't think he was going to play, and I said, 'Fine,' and I moved on.

"I said to him that I'm most disappointed personally. Because I believe in him. There's been a trust factor. I told him, 'You're going to have to be honest with me.' It's just like dealing with your kids. Your kids make mistakes and you deal with them. It doesn't mean you love them any less."

Arenas on Wednesday blamed the media.

"If I wouldn't (have) made any comments, you guys wouldn't have known, right?" Arenas said. "Right. So, let's just say I blew it again. You guys want somebody honest, but you don't want somebody honest. I messed up again. I'll never do it again.

"At the end of the day, you guys got to do your job. Even though it's not right that you guys are nitpicking everything I do, you've got a job to do and I've got a job to do."

For his part, Young feigned innocence about the entire situation, but was more than happy to take advantage of it, scoring a team-high 24 points in Washington's win.

"I didn't know nothing about it," he said. "I heard this morning—I saw it on TV. That's just Gil doing Gil. I don't even know what was going on. I just went out there and played my game."

Would Young consider paying Arenas' fine in exchange for the playing time?

"Nah. He's got a lot more money than I do," Young said.

James sits out in Heat loss to Hornets

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—The stars were out in the Big Easy.

Out of the lineup, that is.

Miami sat Dwyane Wade and LeBron James, who were both nursing hamstring pulls. David West missed his second straight game for New Orleans with a sprained right wrist.

First-year New Orleans guard Marco Belinelli wound up seizing the spotlight, scoring eight of his 19 points in the fourth quarter to help the Hornets beat he Heat 90-76 on Wednesday night for their first preseason win.

"It was a situation where our bench could have folded tonight," Hornets coach Monty Williams said. "Marco went back in there and did some good things."

Wade has been out of action since hurting his right hamstring in Miami's first exhibition game. James also was resting his right hamstring, which tightened up Tuesday night during a game in Miami against Russian club CSKA Moscow.

The left Chris Bosh as the only member of Miami's All-Star triumvirate to suit up. He led Miami (2-2) with 24 points, 20 of which he scored in the third quarter to help Miami erase a 16-point halftime deficit and briefly take the lead.

"I like how we established Chris on the low post," Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Chris is a multiyear All-Star that has Olympic experience and is a very unselfish player. I want out proven shooters to step up and take good shots."

The game gave Bosh a chance to take a leading scoring role and he said he was not terribly concerned about missing out on time in the preseason to mesh with James and Wade.

"Once those guys come back it's just going to be business as usual in my opinion," Bosh said. "We all know how to play basketball. Dwyane, he's been here for seven years so it's pretty much the same plays that they've been running for a long time. He's going to know where to get his shots, where to be on defense. And LeBron, he's a pretty smart basketball player."

Wade and James both sat on the bench in warmups but were off-limits to reporters during regular media availability before and after the game.

Emeka Okafor scored 15 points for the Hornets (1-2).

James Jones had 15 points for Miami and Mike Miller 11.

New Orleans led 45-29 at halftime with the help of 11 points each from Belinelli and Emeka Okafor.

Bosh's third-quarter surge helped Miami climb back in front and Miller's 3 put the Heat up 63-61 late in the period.

Pacquiao insists: I'm training hard for fight

BOXING

MANILA— Pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao isn't fooling around and is actually training hard for his WBC super welterweight title fight against Antonio Margarito on Nov. 13.

"I'm fine. So far, so good," Pacquiao said yesterday, after a workout supervised by strength and conditioning coach Alex Ariza at the Rizal Memorial track and field stadium.

Adding he has not neglected his training, Pacquiao pointed out that he was "always training," and that his participation in the Run for the Pasig River last Sunday was actually part of his regimen.

"Sunday was actually supposed to be a rest day, but I ran and jogged, which is good for me," said Pacquiao.

He said that driving down from Baguio to Manila and back on two successive weekends wasn't physically taxing. "It doesn't hurt because I sleep in the car," he said.

Pacquiao, who worked out along with WBA light welterweight champion Amir Khan yesterday, said the conditioning session with Ariza was "getting harder."

But Ariza said the hard work is yet to come.

"This was just the speed work, getting the form down and getting used to doing the old drills again," he said.

Pacquiao said he is committed to "the last two weeks of hard training," and welcomed the chance to work out along with Khan.

"He is fast and he jogs fast and trains fast and that's good," said the Filipino superstar.

Khan said the workout was "tough, it was long but it's going to help us in the fight."

Khan faces WBA interim champion Marcos Maidana on Dec. 9 in the United States.

"Bai" Elorde, grandson of the late world junior lightweight champion Gabriel "Flash" Elorde, who will see action in the Pacquiao-Margarito undercard, also joined Pacquiao and Khan in training last Wednesday.

Ariza ruled out any sparring between Pacquiao and Khan, pointing out that "they are fighting two different guys with different styles." ***(Philippine Daily Inquirer)***

Voyagers, Fotten Palau cling to 8-ball lead

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Jonny's IT&E Voyagers and USSP's Fotten Palau are both hanging on to a precarious lead in the Agingan and Obyan divisions of the 2010 Saipan Billiards Association Budweiser Open 8-Ball League after last Tuesday's games.

In the Agingan standings, the Voyagers with its 35-14 record are ahead by only a hair against the Docomo Hustlers (34-15). Anything can happen in this group with Jonny's Home Boyz (33W-16L) and Buddies Bar & Grill's IT&E Incredibles (29W-20L) not too far behind. Notably, the Hustlers' Jerry Soriano ran the rack four times in a row.

In the Obyan play, Fotten Palau with its 26-23 slate holds a slim two-game lead over Shark Attack (24-25L) of Wild Bill's Bar & Grill. VFW's ToroKeeRee and D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Who Oah! are locked at 20 wins with 29 losses and tied for third. Notables include the Pirates' Franklin C. Palacios sinking the 8-Ball off the break onetime, while ToroKeeRee's Jimmy Wang and Shark Attack's Nong Detdon each ran the rack once.

WALTER SUTHERLAND
The Docomo Hustlers pose for a photo after shutting out USSP Turtles, 7-0, during last Tuesday's SBA Open 8-Ball League at Utopia.

Voyagers 5, Fotten Palau 2

At USSP, the Voyagers won three of the five singles matches and finished strong to take both doubles matches, one via tiebreaker. Rolly Villanueva, Rey Pinangay and Jojo Talibong of the Voyagers won their singles and doubles matches.

Hustlers 7, Turtles 0

At Utopia, the Hustlers destroyed the USSP Turtles at home, 7-0, winning only two of their matches by tiebreaker. Notably, the Hustlers just got new uniforms and looked really good winning in them last Tuesday.

ToroKeeRee 4, Pirates 3

ToroKeeRee won the first four singles matches, three via tiebreaker, for a swift automatic victory over the Pirates. The Pirates did save face, however, and managed to take the last singles match and both double contests.

Home Boyz 4, Who Oah! 3

Home Boyz only won one of the first three singles matches and ran into trouble early but, but it recovered and took the last two singles contests. Then after losing the first double match, the Home Boyz battled back again and swept the last match of the duel. Home Boyz's Nolan Cultura and Mario Diola won their singles and doubles matches.

Shark Attack 4, Incredibles 3

Shark Attack won the first three singles matches to gain an early advantage. They went on to take the team victory after winning the first double match by tiebreaker. Shark Attack's Patrick Taitano and Jerry Ayuyu won their singles and double matches.

SONICS

From Page 36

led to as much as 17. Adrian Palacios led the Sonics' final push, making the team's last six points.

Ecalnea top-scored for the Sonics with 13 points, while six of his teammates chipped in at least six points for a balance scoring. Palacios logged eight markers, John Paul Villanueva added eight, Galarse nailed seven, and Ajoste, Melvin Cadiang and Kay Barbo contributed six apiece.

Rodney Sacramento finished with a team-high nine markers for Rollers C in the loss.

The win against the Rollers put the Sonics in third place in the team standings in the U19 division.

Still undefeated after three games, the Sparks are currently positioned in first place, just one victory ahead of Hi-5, which is also unbeaten after two matches. The CK Saints are also unscathed, having won their first game in the season before the youth caging temporarily stopped the competition due to the Ada gym closure.

The U19 division team standings also show Ol'Aces having an even 1-1 record, Rollers A and B squads owning similar 1-2 slates, Rollers C dropping to a 0-3 mark, the G-Stars carding a 0-2 record, and Agape tallying a dismal 0-4 slate.

Meanwhile, games in the U15 division will resume tomorrow. Four matches will be played in the younger age group with Rollers B facing Sonics in the first game; Rollers dueling Rollers C in the second; Runnin' Rebels meeting Agape in the third; and Ol'Aces battling the G-Stars in the last match of the day.

Sonics 60 – Ecalnea 13, Palacios 8, Villanueva 8, Galarse 7, Ajoste 6, Barbo 6, Cadiang 6, Sula 4, Jeon 2.

Rollers C 45 – Sacramento 9, Norita 8, Diaz 6, Iglesias 6, Francisco 5, Lee 4, Teregeyo 4, Rangamar 2, Yap 1.

Scoring by quarters: 10-8, 28-20, 42-32, 60-45.

PROPOSED

From Page 36

ing the 4th Legislature in 1984, has powers and duties in regulating the use, operation, and maintenance of sports facilities of the CNMI government, under a memorandum between the association and the departments of Community and Cultural Affairs, Natural Resources, Education, Public Works, and the Office of the Governor.

"With limited staff but a large and visible responsibility, the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association already has some responsibility for these same or similar activities," the desk audit report stated.

NMASA is headed by Michael White and operates through the help of volunteer athletes and officials, while the Division of Sports and Recreation is run by government employees.

White when asked about the recommendation of the desk audit, reiterated NMASA's earlier position.

"As we have previously noted, NMASA would welcome the opportunity to take responsibility for the operation of the Oleai Sports Complex. With appropriate government budgetary support, we believe that we can do a better job of managing these facilities for the benefit of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands," White said.

Saipan Tribune e-mailed DCCA Secretary Melvin Faisao and Division of Sports and Recreation director Joe Lizama to comment on the desk audit, but neither had responded at press time.

The first step toward a NMASA takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex was made when Rep. Ramon Tebuted pre-filed House Bill 17-112.

The bill sought to amend sections in Public Law No. 4-66, which created NMASA. Today, the bill will be formally introduced at the House of Representatives' session.

Under Tebuteb's bill, NMASA will still have the same duty to operate and maintain sports facilities, but only those located at the Oleai Sports Complex.

Another amendment sought is about charging reasonable fees for the usage of the facilities at the Oleai Sports Complex and for advertisement and promotion of its activities and exclusively awarding vending rights at the facilities and premises in consultation and concurrence with the DCCA secretary.

DOCOMO

From Page 36

IT&E 86, Buraot 76

In the first game, IT&E edged Buraot, 86-76 victory.

The win improved IT&E record to 4-3, while Buraot dropped to a 2-4 mark.

IT&E's Errol Peredo got the better end of a shootout against Buraot's Dave Sablan in the opening canto, as the former lifted his team to a 21-14 lead. Sablan and Peredo tallied nine points apiece in the first period.

Buraot fought back in the second and trailed by only two points at the half, 39-41. Sablan added 11 markers to lead Buraot's comeback surge.

Both teams adjusted well after the break to keep the game competitive in the third quarter. The two teams traded baskets and it remained a two-point game, 63-61, in favor of IT&E, heading into the final period. Ivan Devero and Peredo scored eight and seven, respectively, while Sablan had nine and Gil Gapor added seven for Buraot in the third.

However, after keeping pace with IT&E in the first three quarters, Buraot finally ran out of gas. Gapor added six points in the fourth, but Sablan was held to only four points in the clutch.

For IT&E, its bench put together a late surge to take the tough victory. Peredo paced IT&E with 28 points. Sablan led all scorers with 34 markers.

First Game

IT&E 86 – Peredo 28, De Vero 19, Naraja 19, Tumaquip 8, Dayrit 6, Montano 3, Park 3.

Buraot 76 – Sablan 34, Gapor 19, Fernando 9, Bautista 5, Achas 4, Hidalgo 3, Swaim 2.

Scoring by quarters: 21-15, 41-39, 63-61, 86-76.

Second Game

Docomo Pacific 88 – Estolas 26, Esdrelon 22, Santos 14, Gamboa 13, Sharry 8, Lee 3, Diaz 2.

Ferrera Builders 83 – Abuy 21, Bernardo 17, Abuel 16, Yabut 12, Abedes 9, Demapan 2, Miranda 2, Mortos 2, Serrano 2.

Scoring by quarters: 19-29, 35-49, 54-69, 88-83.

DEAR

From Page 36

email or text will be seen by the whole wide world. And keep your privates private.

Robert: I need your help for a homework assignment. Can you give me an example of irony? Stumped, San Jose

Dear Stumped: Irony would be Jenn Sterger rewarded for exposing herself to the world with nude photos in Playboy magazine while Brett Favre is penalized for exposing himself to Sterger. Ironically he can see her naked but she can't she him naked.

Robert: I picked the Saints/Packers/Vikings/49ers/Cowboys to win the NFC. Is there something wrong with me? Dazed, Dandan

Dear Dazed: Nothing is wrong with you. You are normal.

Robert: Why don't we get the ABC prime time college football game of the week each Sunday which would be perfect after going to church with my family? Appalled , As Lito

Dear Appalled: Although ABC-7 (not MCV) has the rights to show the game and could if they really want to, they do not care to show it. You have a right to be appalled.

Guam gets the game. Saipan does not.

Robert: Why didn't we get to see the baseball divisional series? Grumbling, Garapan

Dear Grumbling: MCV does not carry TBS which had the rights to those games. We weren't the only place that didn't get them on cable. Personally I'd rather get TBS than the Game Show Network but hey, I'm just a sports fan. Yes, Guam got the games.

Robert: Who will win the NBA title this season, the Lakers or Heat? Puzzled, Papago

Dear Puzzled: I have no idea. I'm just hoping we get to see them on television.

Robert: Who will win the MLB championship this season? Troubled, Tanapag

Dear Troubled: Have the playoffs started? I didn't see them on tv yet.

Robert: One of the best managers in baseball retired after 29 seasons. What do you think of Braves skipper Bobby Cox? Kaduku, Koblerville.

Dear Kaduku: I think he is one of the best managers of all time as long as he doesn't email nude photos of himself to office staff.

Robert: Who ends up with more money, Rachel Uchitel or Jenn Sterger? Knowitall, Kagman

Dear Knowitall: I am sorry as a jobless drunk. I don't know that much of anything. You should ask my cousin, Dr. Robert.

7 teams join Traders Insurance badminton tourney

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The badminton community in the CNMI continues to grow, as shown in the increase of participation in the upcoming 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament.

The Northern Marianas Badminton Association-sanctioned team tournament will be featuring seven squads when the event kicks off on Oct. 22 at the REM Centre in Gualo Rai. Last year, the third edition of the annual team tournament lured six squads.

Vying for this year's championship are Black Team, Royale Blue, Green Buck$, Red Hot Chili Shuttlers, Shuttle Masters, Pink Team, and The Idols.

A tough competition is seen in the fourth edition of the Traders Insurance-sponsored event not only because of the addition of one team, but also due to the even distribution of ranked players.

Each squad is required to have two players each from the men's A and B divisions and women's B and one male and female players in the C division.

Format of the tournament is single round robin in the elimination phase. Then only the Top 4 teams will qualify in the playoffs with the No.1 team facing the No. 4 squad in the semis and the No. 2 and 3 teams squaring off in the other semis pairing.

Trophies and cash prizes await the Top 4 finishers in the tournament, which was formally launched last week after Traders Insurance handed out a $2,000 check donation to NMBA.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jeri Hibi, seen here competing in last year's team tournament, will be playing for Pink Team when the 4th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament kicks off next week at the REM Centre in Gualo Rai.

Meanwhile, members of the participating teams are listed below.

Black Team: Rey Bulaon, Edwin Montoya, Edwin Maratas, Alvin Alvarez, In Bog Oh

Rick Bien, Angie Ito, Christy Villaflor, Merlie Savellano, and Annette Quiambao.

Royale Blue: Macoi Aguda, Mario Diola, June Pineda, Victor Regis, Luis Camacho, Jerome Malasarte, Annarose Omori, Shirley Kim, Jaja Samonte, and Kim Boh Rana

Green Buck$: Robert Reyes, Noli Santos, Obet Aguilar, Ezekiel and Puy Macario, Carlo Conwe, Cheng Saturno, Michelle Caleon, Babes Cielo, and Annette Ta

Red Hot Chili Shuttlers: Andreau Galvez, Jojo Savellano, Rodwealth Espana, Narlou Achas, Roding Domingo, Park Sang Do, Loyda Ito, Ana Alvarez, Gigi Zzapanta, and Roma Barlao.

Shuttle Masters: Ferdy Arago, Lito Mendoza, Roger Vales, Ariel Mariano, Eydie Uy, Richard Asuncion, Choi Hannah, Lanie Bartolome, Merlie Tolentino, and Malou Mendoza.

Pink Team: Dick Guintu, Jerry Hibi, Rommel Monserat, Efren Cacdac, Joey Algenio Kanata Omori, Marlene Peraja, Elma Labuson, Toshiko Obata, and Lee So Young.

The Idols: Hapi Gabriel, Saul Gargallo, Aries Cordero, Chris Hilario, Manatsu Omori, Fr. Charlie Borja, Malou Malasarte, Lucelle Lampera, Emily Vargas, and Heo In Sook.

Pre-'Hell' race attracts 50 bikers

Around 50 bikers have already signed up for this Sunday's 50-kilometer bike race from Pacific Islands Club to Aqua Resort Club and back.

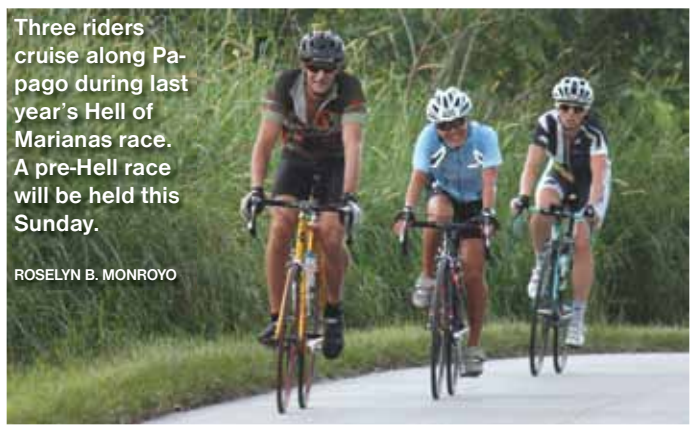
The half-century race is a pre-Hell of Marianas event and aimed at giving riders a taste of the HOM course, about two months before the biggest cycling event in the CNMI hits the road in December.

The 50-km course will have riders starting and finishing the race at the southern parking lot of PIC. From the starting line, bikers will head south to the airport road and Tun Herman Pan Road before turning right at Isa Drive. From Isa Drive, they will go to Chalan Talafofo to the Kingfisher Golf Links and back to Isa Drive. Riders will then race down Capital Hill and turn right to Chalan Pale Arnold to make a U-turn at Away Resort Club. From Aqua Resort, bikers will head back to PIC, turn right at the American Memorial Park tennis courts, and then cruise along Beach Road.

There will be two categories in the pre-Hell race: mountain and road bikes.

"Although we have both road and mountain bike races, competitors may change to mountain bike if it's raining or the roads are wet that morning. We're hoping for an ideal weather conditions for riders safety," said PIC's Kanae Quinn, who believes 10 more riders will join the weekend race.

PIC water park gift certificates and Magellan lunch and brunch certificates await the top finishers in the both divisions. Check-in time is at 5:30am, while the race will begin at 6am.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Three riders cruise along Papago during last year's Hell of Marianas race. A pre-Hell race will be held this Sunday.

Meanwhile, registration for the 100-km Hell of Marianas is still on-going.

Interested participants can join the solo event, two-person, or the three or four-person team division.

The 4th Annual Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race will take place on Dec. 4 with Saipan riders challenging cyclists from Russia, Guam, Japan, and Korea.

Russia's Alexandre Bagenov and Eugeniy Smarchkov, who were the Top 2 finishers in the men's division last year, are among those expected to return for another Hell race.

For more information about Hell of Marianas, contact PIC at 237-5148 or e-mail at seaexec@picsaipan.com or dosm@picsaipan.com. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Softball tournament set for Oct. 23-24

The Uab Softball Association will be holding a fundraising tournament next week at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

The fundraiser will be held on Oct. 23 and 24 and will be a masters co-ed event. Entrance fee is $100. Only the first 10 teams to register and pay the entrance fee will be allowed to play in the two-day tournament.

Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to send a team of Palauan players who will compete in the Belau Goodwill Softball Tournament in Koror early next year.

Trophies await the top finisher in the tournament, which will have its format and schedule announced once teams turn in their registration forms.

More details about the tournament will be released next week.

For more information, contact Poland Yamada at 287-2429 or Perry Besong at 287-1963. ***(PR)***

Flying Dartsmen, Yakau hang on to lead

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Gaia's Lady Gagas, seen here posing for a group photo, pulled out a close 8-7 home win over Buddies Bar & Grill's Pink Panthers in last Monday's SEDA Ladies League.

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Buddies' Bar & Grill's Flying Dartsmen and Jonny's Yakau both kept slimmed leads in their respective division in the 2010 Saipan Electronic Dart Association League after Monday's games.

With their 109-78 record, the Flying Dartsmen hold a two-game edge over the Naked Fish Boyz (107-80) in the A Divison.

In the Ladies League, Yakau has a 101-49 mark and clings to the top spot by just over one percentage point over D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Strikers (109-56). Yakau has a winning rate of 0.6733 compared to the Strikers' 0.6606. The rest of the ladies field is at least 14 games back. Notables include a 160 High-In by Kmal Sechelim's Polly Rebekuul and a 124 High-Out by the Strikers' Rufina Guevarra.

A DIVISION
Naked Fish Boyz 10, Flying Dartsmen 7

Naked Fish Boyz won three cricket matches, a partners 501 game, and swept all four sniper matches for a commanding lead. After the Flying Dartsmen swept both wild cricket games, the Boyz won a pair of singles 301 matches to clinch the automatic victory. The Dartsmen took the final team 1001 Cherry contest.

Notables include a 155 High-Out by the Dartsmen's Julian Camacho.

Primos 12, Vargas Snipers 5

At Charlie's, Primos won three of the four cricket matches, swept both partners 501 games, won a pair of sniper matches, and sealed the automatic victory after sweeping both wild cricket games. They added a pair of singles 301 matches and the final team 1001 Cherry game to their total. The Primo's Jeff Pangelinan won all six of his matches.

CK-Destroyers 12, Bud Brothers 5

The CK-Destroyers won a pair of cricket matches, swept both partners 501 games, three of four sniper matches, and both wild cricket games for the win. They added a pair of singles 301 matches and the final team 1001 Cherry contest to their total. CK's Jeff Barit won all six of his matches. Notables include a 160 High-In by Jeff Barot of D'Pirates Bar & Grill's CK-Destroyers

Locals 13, Right There! 4

The Locals won three of four cricket matches, swept both partners 501 games, and took all four sniper matches for a quick team victory. They went on to add a wild cricket game, a pair of singles 301 matches, and the final team 1001 Cherry contest to their total. The Locals' Alfred Hocog won five out of six matches.

LADIES LEAGUE
Lady Gagas 8, Pink Panthers 7

The Pink Panthers of Buddies clung to an early lead after taking three of the four singles 301 matches with a wild cricket game and a partners 501 win, but Gaia's Lady Gagas won three cricket matches and both partners baseball games for the comeback victory. The Pink Panthers took the final team 1001 match.

Strikers 10, Tipiyeew 5

The Strikers won three of the four singles 301 matches and both wild cricket games for an early lead. After Buddies' Tipiyeew swept both partners 501 contests, Mama's Snipers won three of the four cricket matches for the automatic victory and went on to add a partners baseball game and the final team 1001 match to their total. The Strikers' Rose Reguine won all five of her matches.

Mama's Snipers 12, Megatouch 3

Mama's Snipers swept all four singles 301 matches, both wild cricket games, and both partners 501 contests for a swift victory. They added a pair of cricket matches, a partners baseball game, and the final team 1001 match to pad their numbers. Mama Snipers' Cecil Blas won all five of her matches and teammates, Aida Laniyo and Matrina Lisua both went 5-for-6.

Braves waste no time, name Gonzalez manager
PAGE 31

Saipan Tribune
Sports

7 teams join Traders Insurance badminton tourney
PAGE 35

Sonics rout Rollers C in Rotary caging

The Sonics' Tim Sula goes for a left-handed layup against Rollers C players during their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Wednesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.
WALTER SUTHERLAND

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Sonics showed little signs of rust from a long break after pounding Rollers C, 60-45, at the resumption of action in the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Playing their first game since the Ada gym closed about two weeks ago, the Sonics slowly pulled away from Rollers C to improve to a 3-1 record.

The Sonics drew their first six points of the game from Bryan Ajoste to take a 10-8 lead at the end of the first quarter.

Then in the second quarter, the Sonics began outgunning Rollers C with Leo Galarse and Tristan Ecalnea leading the way for the former. Ecalnea and Galarse delivered five points apiece for the Sonics, which padded their lead to eight at halftime, 28-20.

The Sonics extended the lead into double-digits, 42-32, heading into the final period, as Ecalnea continued to find his target, adding six more points. Rollers C was held to only 12 points, as the Sonics did a great job controlling possession in the second half.

The Sonics kept their pace in the last quarter and stretched the

See SONICS on Page 34

Docomo hands Ferrera Builders first loss

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

No more undefeated team in the 2010 QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup as the second-ranked Docomo Pacific pulled off a dramatic come from behind win over the then unbeaten Ferrera Builders, 88-83, last Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Jun Estolas and Elmer Esdrelon led Docomo's comeback, combining for 23 points to give the team its fifth win in six games and hand Ferrera Builders its first loss in seven matches.

Behind by 15 at the end of the third period, 49-64, Docomo drew 13 points from Estolas and 10 from Esdrelon in the crucial fourth quarter to spoil Ferrera's bid for a perfect season. The Estolas-Esdrelon duo outscored the entire Ferrera Builders crew in the payoff canto, 23-14.

Ferrera Builders played three solid quarters, but like in their last game, they let their guards down in the fourth quarter, allowing Docomo to muster a late surge in the last four minutes of the game.

Ferrera Builders jumped out to a 10-point lead, 29-19, after the opening period thanks to the hot shooting of James Abuy and Wowie Abuel, who scored nine points each. Estolas had a one-man show for Docomo in the first period, making 11 points.

Then in the second quarter, Ferrera's defense held Docomo to 16 points and the former increased its lead to 14 at the break, 49-35. Abuy added 10 points in the second canto to keep Ferrera's double-digit advantage.

Docomo regrouped after halftime and managed to trade baskets with Ferrera early in the third quarter. Esdrelon came off the bench for Docomo and delivered seven markers, but still Ferrera retained the lead, 64-59.

It was payback time came for Docomo in the fourth quarter, as Estolas and Esdrelon took over the team's offense. In contrast, Ferrera players became hesitant with the ball and nobody wanted to step up offensively to close out the game. Instead of going for the kill, Ferrera spent its time looking over at the clock, as Docomo grinded its way back into the game.

Estolas paced Docomo with 26 points, while Esdrelon added 22.

See DOCOMO on Page 34

WALTER SUTHERLAND
Buraot's Dave Sablan attacks the defense of IT&E during their game in the QQ Cup last Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court. Sablan scored 34 points, but still IT&E beat his team, 86-76.

Proposed NMASA takeover of Oleai Complex gets boost

The Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, seen here with a sports mural done for the 2006 Micronesian Games, could have a new caretaker if a bill proposing a NMASA takeover of the Oleai Sports Complex becomes a law.
ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The proposal to have the Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association take over the Oleai Sports Complex gained momentum, following the release of a desk audit of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

The desk audit done by the Virginia-based Management Analysis Inc. suggests DCCA transfer the Division of Sports and Recreation's functions to NMASA.

Division of Sports and Recreation maintains and operates the Oleai Sports Complex and other government-ran sports facilities, such as the Capital Hill Ballfield. NMASA by virtue of PL No. 4-66 approved by then Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio dur-

See PROPOSED on Page 34

Dear Mr. Robert

Robert: What's your take on the Brett Favre scandal? Stupefied, Susupe

Dear Stupefied: While waiting for the facts to come out, I just hope this is not an example of someone trying to get money in an ugly way. The name Jenn Sterger rang a bell when I first read about this wretched story and then I remembered the phony cowgirl at Florida State University who wore skimpy outfits to football games in order to be noticed. Why this allegation is coming out now two years after it supposedly happened, I don't know but apparently a website paid a nice sum. How a third party had it and sold it, I have no idea. Did Jenn send or "give" them to someone who cashed in? Or did someone steal her IPhone? Did a couple of lowlifes connive and plot this dastardly deed? Or did she send him something titillating first? The fact that Sterger filed no complaint is most relevant. The moral of this story: assume everything you

See DEAR on Page 34

OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2